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Vol. XLI. No. 4

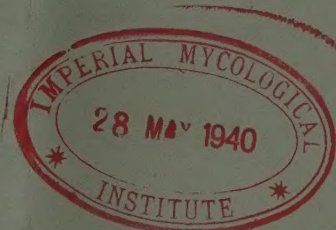
APRIL 5th, 1940

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Marketing Apples and Pears in Great Britain
Control of Banana Diseases
Apple and Pear Acquisition
Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area
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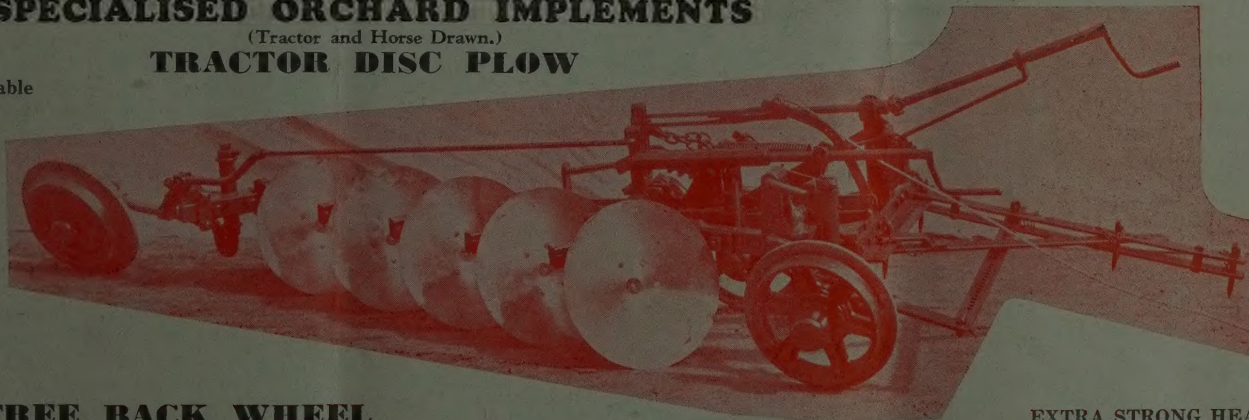
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Extract from "BETTER FRUIT," March, 1937, by Dr. R. L. Webster, Entomologist, State College of Washington, Pullman: **CODLIN MOTH COVER SPRAYS**—"Ever since the imposition of an arsenic tolerance in 1936, and even before that time, investigators have been testing other materials which may be used in place of lead arsenate. Following all these intensive and extensive investigations lead arsenate appears to have certain inherent qualities which place this material foremost as an insecticide for codlin moth control."

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WE WANT TO:

Supply your Orchard Requisites.

Assist in Marketing your Crop.

The Food Problem is Vital

GERMANS HAVING A BAD TIME

THERE IS NO ATTEMPT to gloat over the misfortunes of our enemies in a studied comparison between the living conditions of the German and Australian peoples in a recent article issued by the Commonwealth Dept. of Information.

It is pointed out that before the conquest of Austria, Germany was, by far, not the size of New South Wales, and in this space 65 millions of Germans had to be fed. Germany in normal times wanted say, about £200,000,000 import of foodstuffs a year. That is about 60 per cent. more than the entire export of Australia, and it represents just one-third of Germany's needs. This means that Germany produces sufficient foodstuffs for about 45,000,000 of inhabitants. It is astonishing that, by means of intense work and scientific methods, this comparatively small country is able to produce about three times as many primary products

as the whole of Australia. But even so, it is not nearly sufficient.

In the meantime, Austria became part of the German Reich, then Czecho-Slovakia followed. These two countries were not self-supporting in foodstuffs, and the same applied to Poland, especially to her western industrialised areas. So that all the recent German conquests have not improved the position of primary products; on the contrary, they have made it worse.

And now comes the war!

The only way open to Germany is to get foodstuffs and other vital supplies from the Balkans. This is the real danger to the Balkan countries at present, and with the war drawing out, the German General Staff will probably be forced into this direction to safeguard the necessary supplies to feed the army. Even now, it is bad enough, and two years ago, the position was anything but bright.

The low standard of foodstuffs and the growing inadequacy of supplies does not improve the military chances of Nazi Germany, and may help to safeguard the superiority of the Allied armies necessary for ultimate victory.

Considering the whole situation, the scarcity in Germany is much more important than it would be here, for it is scarcity in a cold climate, and deprives the population of a very necessary measure of protection against the rigors of Winter. In connection with the shortage of proper wool there is no doubt that Winter will take a huge toll of the population, and that only the fittest will be able to carry on. In Germany, plenty of thick woollen clothing is needed, but cannot be got. Artificial wool is no substitute for wool, and is no protection from the cold wintry blasts.

TOUCHED ON THE RAW.

Hotel Guest (phoning down at 2 a.m. for the third time): "Say, are you the night clerk?"
Crabbed Clerk: "Yes; what's biting you now?"
Guest: "That's what I'd like to know."

USING UP SURPLUS FRUIT.

Students Taught Bottling.

A demonstration of bottling and preserving fruit was recently given at the East Perth (W.A.) Girls' School, under the supervision of Miss M. H. Reeves, Principal of the Domestic Science Department of the school, where members of the Rural Women's Household Science Course attended.

After explaining the methods adopted, the demonstrator emphasised that fruit for preserving should be of first grade, but not necessarily of the largest varieties. Early season fruit is found best for jellies. For Apple jelly 2 lbs. Jonathans and one Lemon added is found a good mixture. The skins and seeds are used.

Pears, Peaches and Plums were used in the demonstration and approved methods of preparing and bottling were shown to the interested audience. The main principle to be observed is to cook the fruit in a manner to destroy the enzymes and prevent decay and finally, when bottling, to exclude air from the bottles by rubber-washers and tight fitting screw tops.

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News in Brief

As demonstrating the value of agricultural shows, the Northern Californian State Fair reported a paid attendance of 522,058 people at their last show.

Feeding cull Apples to cows is reported upon favorably by dairy farmers in U.S.A.

A new departure is reported by Apple driers in California. It is to dry the Apples in quarter sections instead of slices. It is anticipated that his method will be welcomed.

Last year Palestine exported 15,000,000 cases of citrus fruits, but owing to export restrictions it is estimated that only six million cases will be exported this season.

A 22 oz. Delicious Apple was picked from a tree owned by Dr. G. White, at Fresno, California.

Forty-three per cent. of the Texas citrus crop was canned last season.

Germany imported 211,585,100 kilos of Apples in 1938. The

five chief exporters were France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, and U.S.A. Figures are not available for 1939, but the quantity is stated to be much lower.

It is proposed to abolish by law all forms of artificial coloring of Oranges in Florida.

A movement is on foot in S. Africa to establish a Citrus Marketing Board to control the export and distribution of S. African citrus fruit overseas.

A large department store in Los Angeles gave a free drink of Orange juice to all customers as part of their contribution to "Orange Week" celebrations.

Russia is speeding up the construction of coal gas and charcoal gas motor trucks. Existing cars and trucks are also being converted to run on gas.

The price of green vegetables reached high levels in March owing to drought conditions. Prices, however, were still below the peak of 1939.

PERSONAL

Messrs. W. Castle, W. French, M. Muir and Cr. J. G. Marchlanth were appointed by the Red Cliffs Branch U.C.P. to attend the annual conference of the party, held recently at Geelong, Victoria.

A recent visitor to Red Cliffs, Victoria, was Mr. Jack McGlasson, son of Mr. F. McGlasson, of the Co-op. Packing Co. Jack was on leave from the Air Force during Easter. Other members of the Air Force in Red Cliffs during leave were R. Hastings and R. Lomas.

Mr. C. E. McNally, a Red Cliffs orchardist, has been urged to stand for election at the Legislative Council elections later on in the year. He is considering the request.

Upon his transfer from Sunny-cliffs State School to Mooropna, Mr. E. R. J. Treadwell was given a public send-off by 200 residents who appreciated his service while headmaster.

Thirty members of the Second A.I.F. who spent their final leave in Mildura, Vic., were heartily farewelled by friends and old Diggers upon entraining on March 27.

The recent death of Mr. Frank Sissons, of Papanui, New Zealand, removes one of the Dominion's leading orchardists. His was the first orchard in N.Z. to equip its own cool storage plant. He was the first President of the Canterbury Fruit-growers' Association and has visited many Australian fruit conferences as a representative of New Zealand.

Government to Buy Flax

Price to be Fixed

INCREASED FLAX PRODUCTION is the aim of the Federal Government and to assist growers it is proposed to buy flax fibre of approved quality and make contracts for sale to spinners. £5 per ton is tentatively set as the current price for straw of approved standard. Though this price is somewhat lower than that ruling at present, it is desired to avoid a slump and to give growers a fixed and improving market. The present margin of profit would be used to create a fund to meet any changed market conditions and so protect the industry and also to foster improved technique by research in the next few years and to reduce overhead costs, stated the Federal Minister of Supply recently. He esti-

imated that Victoria and Tasmania could plant 8,000 to 10,000 acres this year.

A report from the Murray River districts suggests that reticulated economical watering should be beneficial for flax growing in that area, and an investigating committee has already visited the area to make a preliminary survey of the possibility of successfully growing flax or alternative crops suitable for the district, including hemp. It is proposed that small experimental plots shall first be tried out. Already, it is reported, the C.S.I.R. has undertaken remarkable work in the matter of research and that Australian harvesting and processing methods have been greatly improved.

Ardmona (Vic.) Youth Wins Scholarship

A scholarship offered by the "Weekly Times" which entitles the winner to a 2 years course at the Longeronong Agricultural College has been won by Max Doherty, of Ardmona, a member of the Young Farmers' Club Movement.

Max is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus. Doherty, and comes from a successful family. His brother, Noel, won a scholarship for Dookie a year ago, and his sister Margaret won a Junior Government Scholarship of 4 years at the Shepparton High School.

Both boys have been successful competitors at the Melbourne Royal Show and are good judges of stock. Congratulations, Max, keep it up.

Damage from Seepage

Compensation and Prevention.

DAMAGE from seepage is reported to be extensive in districts adjacent to Leeton and Griffith, N.S.W., and it has been suggested that a special tribunal, presided over by a Judge or a Stipendiary Magistrate, should be appointed to take evidence on oath regarding damage done and to make recommendations for assistance as well as to present methods whereby further damage shall be obviated.

This procedure was requested at a meeting of fruitgrowers at Leeton recently and the co-operation of growers in other districts is to be sought. The Minister wrote that officers of the Department would visit the area and report upon the water-logging effects. It was pointed out that the major problem was caused by seepage and not by water-logging, also that the matter was so important to growers that the Government must be made to recognise the danger of the seepage and go farther than simply take evidence of damage.

It was stated that two visits to the district had been paid by members of Parliament but no result had been seen and no report published. It was doubtful if any amount of correspondence with Government would effect any action and a deputation was nominated to go to Sydney and press for definite action.

CROP NEWS FROM CANADA.

Apple Movement Slow.

ADVICE received from the Dominion Department of Agriculture in March reports cold weather conditions with heavy snow in the Eastern provinces. Side roads were blocked, although most main highways were being kept open. Even in Ontario, Apple movements were restricted. Heavy losses were reported in vegetables with a high percentage of waste. As indicative of slow movement in celery it was estimated that at report 90,000 crates were still in cold storage as against 30,000 at same date last year.

Apples in storage in February showed inability to reduce stocks in comparison with last year, the figures quoted being: in cold storage 1939, 1,336,994 bushels against 1940, 1,791,998. In common storage 1939, 1,098,261 bushels against 1940, 2,471,075.

Export figures to February, 1940, were influenced by the lesser quantity of shipping available to reach European markets: Whereas in 1940, 381,204, barrels, 37,902 half-barrels and 2,227,815 boxes had been shipped to the quoted date, in 1939 the figures were 1,676,240, 56,183 and 2,603,355 respectively.

**As Spraying is a Necessity
—then use the World's Best—**

NEPTUNE SPRAYS

The better quality of NEPTUNE Sprays is always obvious by comparison with others. NEPTUNE Sprays conform to the highest standards, and they are consistently uniform in strength and quality. Successful orchardists recommend them. Try them yourself and prove that they're better!

Neptune White Spraying Oil

(SUMMER SPRAY)

NEPTUNE PREPARED RED
SPRAYING OIL
(“A,” “C,” or Heavy Base)

NEPTUNE PALSOL
(Prepared Pale Oil)

NEPTUNE CLARIFOL
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NEPTUNE LIME SULPHUR
SOLUTION
(Clear, amber-coloured, free from sludge)

GENUINE MACCLESFIELD
BLUESTONE

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(23871)

BERGER'S ARSENATE
(Powder or Paste)

COLLOIDAL LEAD
ARSENATE

ENGLISH BLUESTONE
SNOW

GENUINE BLACK
LEAF 40

NEPTUNE LIME
POWDERED SULPHUR

COPPER SPRAY

NEPTUNE SPRAY
SPREADER



Fertilizers for Orchard and Farm

Price Comparison on a Unit Basis

THE NEW FERTILIZER YEAR commenced on November 1, 1939, and in accordance with the Fertilizer Act, 1928, the list of fertilizers registered for the current year are appended hereunder in tabular form, states Mr. H. G. Cariss, Assistant Inspector of Fertilizers, in the W. Aust. "Journal of Agriculture."

Under the provisions of the Fertilizer Act, 1928, and the regulations thereunder, it is provided that all fertilizers sold in W. Aust. shall be registered, sold under a registered brand and in a package on which is conspicuously marked a copy of the registered brand and the name of the fertilizer. The act of registering a fertilizer is a form of guarantee to the consumer that he is obtaining what he is paying for. Also, in order to ensure that the material demanded and paid for is supplied it is incumbent upon the seller, provided that the quantity sold is one hundredweight or more, to issue an invoice, on the prescribed form, with each sale, and include on the invoice the minimum percentages of the fertilising ingredients and, when applicable, other particulars such as fineness, etc.

Furthermore, inspectors are appointed under the Act, and, during the year, periodical inspection of the places where fertilizers are kept for sale or sold are made, and samples taken and submitted to the Government Analyst for analysis.

Manufacturers, as a rule, aim at keeping the analysis of their different fertilizers close to the guaranteed figures as an indication of care in manufacturing and dependability of their product.

From time to time brands of fertilizers make their appearance on the market, especially so-called special garden manures, which are supposed to be a pan-

acea for all plant evils, and on analysis are found to be either worthless or far more costly than their ingredients would justify. Such fertilizers should be treated with caution and information sought from the Department of Agriculture as to their registered analyses and comparable values.

As a guide to agriculturists in purchasing their manures the unit values for the different forms of the main fertilizing ingredients, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, have been calculated from the quoted prices per ton.

The system of units and unit value enables an approximation of the comparative monetary values of similar fertilizers to be made. At first sight it may appear that a comparison of the quoted costs per ton would be satisfactory, but as the registered minimum percentages of the fertilizing ingredients are not always similar this is not so.

The amount of a fertilizing ingredient in a fertilizer, e.g., nitrogen in sulphate of ammonia, is measured in terms of units, one unit being one per cent. by weight per ton. Therefore, the unit value for nitrogen in sulphate of ammonia containing 20 per cent. nitrogen and costing £12 per ton would be £12/20 or 12s.

In a similar way the unit values for the other fertilizing ingredients in their various forms may be obtained. Though these unit values approximate fairly closely to the fertilizing value, it must be clearly understood that they are not the definite value but are governed by the current market rates. Further, the total of the individual unit values in each fertilizer is not necessarily equal to the quoted price as the calculated values are averages of all the fertilizers of that class offered for sale. Also with mixed min-

eral fertilizers, viz., potato manures, etc., the cost of mixing and extra handling must be added to the cost of the ingredient, but the unit values still serve as a definite guide to the relative usefulness of the different mixtures for any specific purpose.

To illustrate this comparison by unit values a simple example will serve, say—

X. brand blood and bone: Minimum percentage of Nitrogen 6.5, Phosphoric Acid 10, quoted price per ton £12.

Y. brand blood and bone: Minimum percentage of Nitrogen 5.5, Phosphoric Acid 13, quoted price per ton £12.

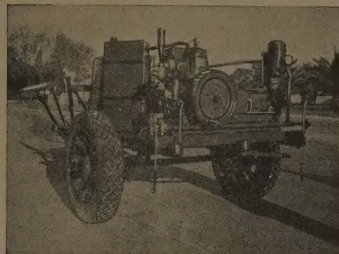
From the appended table of unit values for the current fertilizer year, that for nitrogen in blood and bone is 22/4 and for phosphoric acid 5/7, therefore, using these figures we now obtain the computed value for each fertilizer—

X Brand Blood and Bone.		
	s.	d.
6.5 units of nitrogen at 22/4 per unit	145	2
10 units of phosphoric acid at 5/7 per unit	55	10
Total value	201	0

Y Brand Blood and Bone.		
	s.	d.
5.5 units of nitrogen at 22/4 per unit	122	10
13 units of phosphoric acid at 5/7 per unit	72	7
Total value	195	5

It will be seen therefore, that as the units contained in X brand are worth more than those of Y brand the former would be the more economical fertilizer to purchase when they are both priced at £12 per ton.

— THE — BAVE-U POWER SPRAYER



All models can be fitted with pneumatic tyres at little extra cost.

Write for Particulars

Russell Burrows Pty. Ltd.
Box Hill, E.11 Victoria

Unit values should be used only in comparing fertilizers of similar type, as manufacturing costs vary greatly with the class of fertilizer as also do the length of time and extent to which the fertilizing ingredients become available. For instance, the nitrogen as nitrate or ammonia is readily available and unit values should not be used in comparing either of them with that as blood and bone or bone dust which are less readily available.

The main variations from last year's values are a decrease in blood and bone and bone dust for organic nitrogen and phosphoric acid of 1/8 and 5d. per unit respectively and an increase of 9d. per unit for ammoniacal nitrogen. The values for the other fertilizers have remained constant.

It must be noted that due to the present world situation these unit values are subject to alteration, but will still serve as a guide for comparison of similar types of fertilizers.

In the table on next page, the unit values for the current year are shown in comparison with those for the previous three seasons.

Blyth's "BLUE BELL" Quality Sprays

MADE IN AUSTRALIA

For Twenty-five Years "BLUE BELL" Arsenate of Lead has Proved a Faithful Friend to Growers.

Extract from "Better Fruit" (U.S.A.), Spraying and Pest Control Edition, February, 1937.

CODLIN MOTH CONTROL

By Arthur D. Borden, University of California.

"LEAD ARSENATE is our standard spray material to-day.

None of the many substitutes which have been tested have proved to be as toxic and effective in control."

Arsenate of Lead (Paste or Powder), Lime Sulphur, Special Copper Mixture (Fungicide), Spray Spreader, White Oil, Nicotine Sulphate, Red Oil, etc.

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Phone MU 4756

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Tasmania: W. D. Peacock & Co. Ltd., Princes Wharf, Hobart. H. Jones & Co. Ltd., Charles St., Launceston.
New South Wales: Lanes Ltd., 69 Abercrombie St., Sydney.
Queensland: A.C.F. and Shirlays Fertilizers Ltd., Brisbane.

South Australia: George Wills & Co. Ltd., Gilbert House, Gilbert Place, Adelaide.
Western Australia: F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd., 313 Murray Street, Perth.

Works: PRAHRAN GROVE, ELSTERNWICK, VICTORIA

L 1468.

Unit Values.

	1936- 37.	1937- 38.	1938- 39.	1939- 40.
Nitrogen as—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Dried Blood	—	—	—	26 0
Blood and Bone, Bonedust and Bone and Flesh	21 8	23 0	24 0	22 4
Nitrate	18 2	18 1	18 1	18 1
Ammonia	11 8	11 3	11 2	11 11
Phosphoric Acid (P ₂ O ₅) as—				
Water soluble as super- phosphate	3 4	3 3	3 3	3 3
Citrate soluble as super- phosphate	3 4	3 3	3 3	3 3
Blood and Bone, Bonedust and other animal fer- tilizers	5 6	5 9	6 0	5 7
Basic Phosphate	4 11	4 11	4 11	4 11
Acid soluble in superphos- phate and rock phosphate	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2
Potash (K ₂ O) as—				
Sulphate	6 4	6 5	6 5	6 5
Muriate	5 6	5 7	5 7	5 7

TREES

That Please

and trees that you can plant with profit. From finest parent stock. 1940 Catalogues now ready. Send for your copy.

C. J. GOODMAN

Picnic Point Nurseries, Bairnsdale, Vic.

RED MITE and LEAF HOPPER

Useful Spraying Hints

IN discussing this subject in the N.Z. Journal of Agriculture, the Horticultural Officer says that a heavy attack of red mite may cause early defoliation and a premature fruit dropping. The danger is not passed until Winter egg-laying is observed, possibly some time in April.

Until then, spraying with Summer-oil 1-100 may become necessary.

It is difficult to cover a tree so completely with spray as to destroy every mite present. Sufficient numbers may be left after a first application to produce a heavy infestation if weather conditions are favorable.

A second application seven to ten days later will give comparative freedom from further serious trouble, and such procedure is the best to follow.

Apple leaf-hopper frequently causes much damage late in the season if control measures have not been applied early and before the pest becomes winged.

Damage to foliage is one form of injury which should always be guarded against, as it affects the size and condition of the crop. Besides causing damage to foliage, Apple leaf-hopper will leave deposits on the fruit, much detracting from its general appearance and lowering the grade.

RED SCALE AND CITRUS CANKER.

Vigorous Action by Californian Growers.

Citrus growers owning 13,744 acres and representing 65 per cent. of growers in the Redlands-Highland district of California offer to provide 25 per cent. of a fund to control Red Scale by compulsory fumigation.

Another report states that in

order to prevent the introduction of Citrus Canker into California, 365 lots of holiday gift packages of fruit were recently intercepted by the Los Angeles inspectors. Citrus Canker is unknown in California, and as Texas citrus is a potential carrier, it can and will be understood why this strong stand has been deemed necessary.

FRUIT-FLY CONTROL.

W.A. Growers Concerned.

Discussing the control and eradication of the fruit fly recently at a meeting of growers in Kelmscott, W.A., concern was felt at the manner in which Government intends using the recently imposed levy of 2/6 per acre on orchardists for the suppression of this pest.

Compulsory community spraying was advocated and it was decided to urge this method to the Government. It was also recommended that inspectors be appointed to Kelmscott, Armadale and Gosnells districts. It was also decided to arrange a deputation to the Government for a reduction of electricity charges for irrigation purposes.

In Preparing Your Bordeaux Sprays Use . . .

ESA BLUESTONE

— Manufactured by —

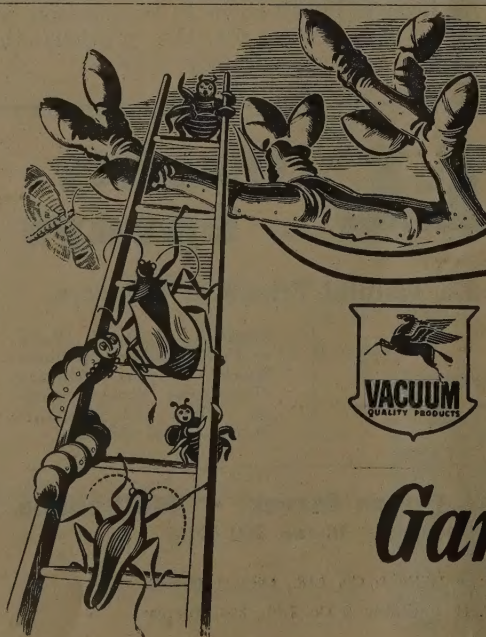
THE ELECTROLYTIC REFINING & SMELTING COMPANY OF AUSTRALIA LTD.
PORT KEMBLA, NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Right Material for Plant Disease Prevention and Control
GUARANTEED 99% PURITY

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Tasmanian News and Notes

LOSS OF FRUIT OWING TO WEATHER CONDITIONS AND REGULATIONS — C.O.P., GRANNY SMITH AND PEARS SUFFER — NEW REGULATIONS AFFECT SHIPPING.

(By Our Correspondent.)

SINCE writing last the position in the north of the State has gone from bad to worse, high winds and little rain followed by a very hot spell has spoilt the early maturing Apple varieties, and many C.O.P. were too small for shipment now that the minimum size has been raised to 2½ in. Thousands of bushels of 2 in. C.O.P. have had to be thrown away that would have been shipped under last year's regulations. I hear that the minimum size of some other varieties has also been raised.

Owing to the 2 in. C.O.P. being wasted, the Committee in Tasmania had to call up Jonathans and Dunns before they were really fit, which is putting picking costs up as well as wasting fruit.

Pears have suffered from the unfavorable growing season, too, but as they were not called up in the north for early shipment overseas they may come up to normal size.

Conditions in the Southern districts also deteriorated considerably during the past month; constant winds dried the soil badly and then unexpectedly a record heat wave came along in mid-March, and for some days the temperature was over 90 degs. On March 13 it rose to nearly 100 degs., and a furious N.W. wind caused severe damage, especially to Pears and Granny Smiths: in many orchards fully half the Pears are on the ground, and G.S. about the same; during the day bush-fires started up everywhere and many orchards lost trees round the edges as the heat from the fires scorched everything for yards.

It is many years (if ever) since so much damage was done by one gale in the South. The combination of heat and wind dried a lot of the leaves on the trees, which in many instances

are semi bare and look a pitiful sight.

It is difficult to estimate the loss in bushels as besides the windfalls a large percentage of what is left on the trees is rubbed badly and cannot go as "Fancy."

In February a little trouble was experienced in filling the

first boat for oversea

as it was definitely stated that there would not be one in February so the growers naturally sent the fruit to Sydney, and as the season was late for early varieties there was not much available for her when she arrived unexpectedly. There was a little difficulty with No. 1 and No. 2 boats under the Acquisition scheme as the growers were not notified that the minimum size of C.O.P. had been raised and a lot of 2 in. were actually packed before the instructions were received, the growers complain at the alteration (without notice) as it is increasing the cost of harvesting and wasting good fruit.

The Tasmanian Sub-Committee's decision not to allow any but pines and Tutton's cases to be used for export oversea, put a lot of growers who had already provided themselves with other cases (mostly dressed hardwood) to a considerable expense and inconvenience and caused the non-delivery of some fruit as it was impossible for the growers concerned to get supplies of pines or Tutton's in time.

:: :: ::

It is difficult to see what N.S. Wales is complaining about as they appear to have had preferential treatment from the start. Apparently they want all their own way which would be unjust to the other States. It is certainly too late now to alter the scheme for this season.

another possibility. Tests have been made with Apple powder which is said to retain the Apple flavor and could be used in cooking.

A feature in all of these products is that they can be stored and need only about one-sixth the space of fresh Apples.

"DIG FOR VICTORY."

Following the British Government's urge to produce more food, the Minister for Agriculture now announces that 1,800,000 families are co-operating in the "Dig for Victory" scheme. It is further estimated that over two million more families are now producing food in some form than before the war.

Orchard Notes

IN a report from Hobart dated March 20, the following is stated:

The Hon. the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. T. D'Alton) is in receipt of the following information from the Chief Horticulturist relative to the condition of orchards throughout the State.

Weather and Crops.

The unusual weather conditions which have already marked this season have continued, and with February temperatures well below average and soil condition generally dry, growth of fruit crops has been retarded. High and persistent winds rapidly dried up precipitation, and in addition caused loss through falling, more particularly amongst Pears. Recently temperatures rose rapidly and record figures were established in many centres, both heat and wind damage taking further toll. Jonathan and Cox, which carried heavy crops in many districts, have suffered in size. Later varieties are in urgent need of rains in many areas. Cleopatra is reported to be carrying crops of exceptionally fine quality this season and have not suffered to any general extent in size.

Pests and Diseases.

In spite of frequent showers and unusually heavy rain in Huon districts, black spot is re-

ported to be well under control; effective spraying, lower temperatures and constant winds doubtless contributing towards this condition. Canary fly is also causing little concern where treated correctly, but red spider is prevalent in many areas, and with recent increased warmth and absence of rain, may cause much indirect damage to fruit. Codling moth is bad in certain areas, but in general has caused little trouble this year.

Fruit Acquisition.

Orchard assessments were completed during the period under review, and only a few late papers are now outstanding. Fruit is beginning to move forward to overseas and interstate markets, and arrangements are proceeding more smoothly. Packing sheds are having a certain amount of difficulty in handling the early consignments, but this will doubtless be overcome when the staff is available. Packing instruction has commenced throughout the different districts, and inspectors are receiving many requests for demonstrations and information.

Stone and Berry Fruits.

The Apricot crop was well below normal this season, only those growers with areas on well drained slopes and lighter soils receiving an average yield. Dull weather at picking time prolonged the ripening period and

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APPLE BY-PRODUCTS.

Sugar-Treacle, Apple Powder, and Jellies.

Also Other By-products.

Methods for utilising surplus Apples following restricted export were recommended by Prof. Barker in Tasmania, recently. Apart from cider, he stated, some varieties of Apples that were unsuitable for cider making, might well be used for making Apple jelly.

Another product was Apple treacle which could be used instead of sugar treacle. This can be broken down with water and makes a good fruit drink. Bottled Apple sauce was still

resulted in additional loss from brown rot. Peaches turned out better than expected, though brown rot was troublesome in many districts. A good demand for Plums was experienced, and some crops of excellent quality were taken in the moister, well-cultivated areas.

Much concern is felt regarding the Autumn plantings of Strawberries, maiden plants runnered freely at an early date, but rooting was checked by the dry condition of the surface soil, and the constant rubbing and dislodgment by continuous strong winds. Good rains are necessary at an early date if sufficient strong young sets are to be obtained.

TASMANIAN APRICOT GROWERS WANT HELP.

Deputation to Minister.

Government assistance was requested by a deputation of Apricot growers from the Glenorchy (Tas.) district, which waited on the Minister for Agriculture in March. It was stated that adverse weather had affected the crops, which were light in consequence and that if some help was not accorded, many growers would be ruined. It was further stated that about 90 per cent. of growers had lost up to 90 per cent. of their crop, and this was the experience of the growers in other districts.

The Minister stated that officers would be sent to report upon the damage and that he would place the matter before the Cabinet and also before the Federal Government.

The Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Co-op. Assn. Ltd. is extending its cool store equipment at Shipwrights Point, near Hobart, by the installation of an additional 45 ton capacity ammonia compressor with electric motor and suitable atmospheric condenser, etc.

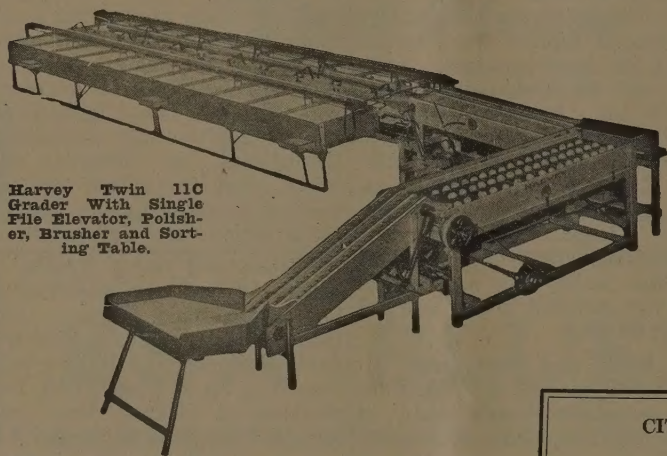
Messrs. James Budge Pty. Ltd., Engineers, Alexandria, Sydney, are the contractors and the work of installing will commence immediately.

WILL IT WORK?

Threat to Hitler.

"Hullo, Hitler, can you hear me? You are sentenced to death," shouted the announcer from the Free German Radio Station. After a long report on the League meeting, the announcer gave Hitler a 100 days' ultimatum to surrender Germany to the German people, "in which case you can quit Germany alive, otherwise the sentence of death will be carried out. Our preparations are made. There is no escape."

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4. Elevator delivering fruit on to lower side of belt, thus avoiding damage.
5. External friction drive of grading elements, variable speed auxiliary drive.
6. Exclusive sorting and single file elevators.

CITRUS PROCESSING PLANTS
SORTING TABLES
LIDDING PRESSES

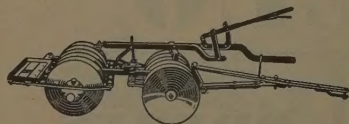
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Proved to be an excellent machine for deeply cultivating heavy irrigation land.

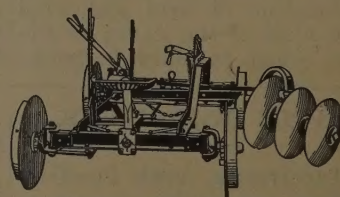


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Queensland: Buzacott (Queensland) Ltd., 443 Adelaide St., Brisbane.
S.A.—Cole & Woodham, Box 12, Renmark.

Handling and Marketing Australian Apples and Pears in Great Britain

(Report by Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture and State Supervising Officer (Fruit), Victoria, in the "Journal of Agriculture")

To investigate the outturn of Australian fruit on the overseas markets and to compare it with fruit from other countries. Mr. Ward visited England and the Continent on behalf of the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments. His observations on the fruit and the conditions of handling and marketing, together with recommendations are set out in the following report.

WHILE in the United Kingdom the ports of London, Hull, Glasgow, Liverpool, and Southampton were visited for the purpose of examining Apples and Pears and making contact with firms handling Australian fruit. At these places a close examination was made of the fruit upon discharge, and again when displayed for sale. Markets and auction sale rooms were visited, and matters of mutual interest were discussed at length with many representatives of the fruit trade. As a result much information of value to the fruit industry was obtained.

Marketing

As is generally known, there are two systems of marketing in the United Kingdom, i.e., sale by auction and sale by private treaty.

Auction Sales.

A sample box of fruit from each line is displayed in rooms adjacent to the sale room, giving buyers an opportunity of making a close inspection of the quality and variety for some two or three hours before the sale. This enables them to decide beforehand the prices they are prepared to pay.

The following is an example of the display of sample box. Grower or shipper "A" has 100 boxes in a consignment; these may include four varieties, in which there are three sizes or counts in each variety. A box of each variety and each size is displayed. The sample in question may be of good, bad, or indifferent quality, slack, or good pack, and the consignment is sold on the sample. Such sample box is again displayed and often tipped into a basket in the auction room at the time the sale is in progress, giving the buyer every opportunity of knowing the class of fruit he is about to purchase.

The retailer or small buyer does not operate at auction sales. He obtains his fruit from one who buys in a large way, either at auction, or privately.

Private Treaty Sales.

Private treaty sales are made at the dock, at the market, or the warehouse, and the buyer examines the fruit at one of these places where samples may be inspected. These buyers purchase for wholesalers, semi-wholesalers, or retailers.

A parcel of, let us say, 2,000 boxes of a well-known brand may be purchased without examination and distributed from the dock, etc., to provincial or other buyers. If such fruit, upon arrival at destination, is not up to quality, it is often returned to the original purchaser—i.e., the importer. As an instance of this, I was called in to examine a line of 400 boxes that had been sold to a Midland buyer, who returned them to the original merchant in London because of their poor condition. This merchant informed me that he had purchased 2,000 boxes at 11/9 c.i.f. The 400 boxes in question were portion of this lot, and were thrown back on his hands. The Apples were badly affected with bitter pit (Granny Smiths), some (Jonathans) had the appearance of being overripe (probably scald), while the Pears (B. Bosc) were rotten. He hoped to make a sale of them at 6/- per box. They were really not worth anything, yet this fruit would be in really good condition at the time of shipment, as far as could be judged by the eye.

The point I desire to make here is that the original purchase, or catalogue price, or even an account sales, is really no criterion of the quality or condition of the fruit, and the loser is the importer or original buyer, and not the grower or shipper in Australia.

This is a most important point. The foregoing instance is only one of many that could be quoted.

Fruit sold on consignment may vary a little from this; it depends upon circumstances.

Condition of Fruit

Generally speaking, the condition and quality of Australian fruit upon arrival, or a few days later, was satisfactory, yet on the other hand there was too much fruit in anything but a satisfactory condition three or four days after discharge. The real test is the condition of the fruit a week or two weeks after discharge. Any one with little or no experience of fruit export in Australia would jump to the conclusion that we were shipping a considerable quantity of overripe and poor quality fruit. This is far from being the truth, although odd boxes of fruit occasionally do escape detection by inspectors.

If our trouble was due to poor quality, grading and packing only, it could be easily remedied, but the trouble is more deep-seated, and I feel that most of

for our Pear trade, that is unless we can overcome carriage or storage defects. It is felt that certain steamers may be faulty fruit carriers. A considerable amount of research relative to sea carriage yet remains to be done.

The two outstanding troubles with Apples are immaturity in the early part of the season and over-ripeness and/or scald later on. The immaturity concerns the early shipments, when bitter pit is most pronounced. Shrivelling occurs, causing the Apples to look like "old men," and they lack Apple quality. Over-ripeness is noticeable mostly on Jonathans. There appears to be two causes (1) probably "hotspots" in the ship's hold, and (2) over-mature Apples not detected at the time of shipment.

In looking back, one is forced to acknowledge the fact that many growers or shippers keep portion of a packed consignment of Jonathans in ordinary store or wharf shed for a week more before shipping, and only re-



A typical English orchard.

the trouble is due to the length of, and condition during, ship's carriage. In making this statement I am not overlooking faults that can be overcome in Australia.

The worst of the Victorian fruit that came under notice was Beurre Bosc Pears. A few days after discharge a large quantity of these was in a really rotten condition. These Pears could be only in a hard, green condition at the time of shipment from Melbourne, as it would be impossible there, to obtain Pears of this variety in a forward condition at the period of the season they would be shipped. Similar Pears are kept in local cool stores for several months in perfect condition. In stating this, the defects of the Bosc are not overlooked. The sooner we cease shipping Bosc Pears the better

search workers have realised the amount of damage that is taking place during this temporary storage period. The Jonathan really has a short harvesting season. This variety should be fully harvested—so far as export is concerned—in from two to three weeks and cool-stored while awaiting shipment. If it were practicable to carry them in a separate hold at an arranged temperature, greater success would result. Victorian investigators have been studying this subject, and I would like to see their findings put into operation on a large scale.

It must be admitted that so far as Victoria is concerned, we have allowed shipment of Granny Smith Apples at too early a date. In future this variety will not be allowed export during the



A very tall tree of Bramley's Seedling.
(Min. Agri. & Fish.)



Bramley's Seedling — a low spreading tree.
(Min. Agri. & Fish.)

month of February and possibly not until the middle of March, according to circumstances.

The fact must not be overlooked that the writer is stressing the faults and not the good points of the condition of our fruit in the United Kingdom; one could give much praise as well as find fault.

The subject of immature Apples has been much discussed for some years past, and has never been satisfactorily settled and probably will not be for some time. After deep consideration and discussions with English importers, I have arrived at the conclusion that the importers are well aware of the arrival condition of these early shipments of immature Apples, yet they continue to insist on buying this class of Apple from

their Australian representatives, and, I understand, other countries, yet bitterly complain about the condition on arrival. They expressed to me the desire that officials should prevent the shipment of such fruit and protect them — the importers — from themselves.

Without hesitation, I make the statement that the fault lies mainly with the importers, and if they wish to avoid the trouble they should cease to make forward purchases until the fruit is more mature. Few, if any, are shipped on consignment from Victoria during the month of February—they are practically all sold f.o.b. or c.i.f. I am not in a position to state what the actual effect of these immature Apples is upon later sales; it depends upon a number of circumstances.

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Buyers in the United Kingdom require **green** Cleopatra Apples and these are worth from 1/- to 2/- per box more than yellow ones.

Grading, Packing, and Boxes

Grading: On the whole there is little fault to be found with grading so far as size and quality are concerned, except that an improvement could be effected in respect to color grading. Too many Apples with little or no color are packed with colored ones. In this respect our inspection—all States—could be tightened up. The fault really lies with the careless grower or shipper who must be dealt with in a drastic manner. Other weaknesses to which attention should be drawn are the limb, tree, or box marks upon certain varieties of Pears; box and limb marks on Josephines and Packham's, and tree or cluster marks upon Winter Cole Pears. Russet is also a source of trouble.

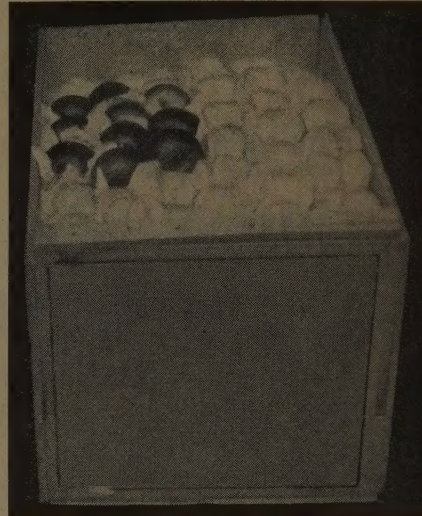
Too many growers pack "border-line" fruit. In future we should not hesitate to reject this class of fruit instantly when submitted for export.

The grading to size of our fruit is at least equal to that from other countries. We should however, endeavor to improve upon our color standard; 20 per cent. of color on Jonathans is far too low, 50 per cent. should be the minimum requirement for this variety.

Packing: The one great fault to be found in our pack of Apples is slackness. Far too many boxes are slack packed. A great number of those seen could well have had another layer of Apples. It was no uncommon sight to see boxes on display showing the fruit anything from 1 inch to 2 inches below the top of the box. The packer would pack, say, the 6 x 5 (Standard box) whereas it should have been the 6 x 6, of the 6 x 6 where the 6 x 7 should have been packed.

We must get into the habit of packing a larger Apple for the different counts. Where, for instance, we have been packing the bare 2½ in. for a certain count, we should pack the 2¾ in. for the same count, that is, keep up on the size. One does not overlook the fact that shrinkage is responsible for a certain amount of slackness.

Some countries are inclined to overdo the "bulge" or "crown," and Australia should avoid falling into the same error. Boxes of Rome Beauty Apples from a certain country could be seen in Covent Garden market with a "crown" high enough to allow one to pull 2¼ in. Apples from the unopened box with ease. Fruit in these boxes is often damaged. Nevertheless, while some countries overdo the "bulge" or "crown" we in Australia do not properly fill the boxes. Naturally enough there



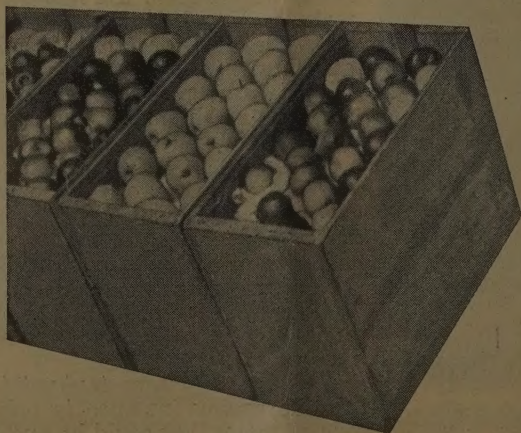
Slack-packed Australian Apples in a
London sales room, 1939.

are exceptions. Any box of Apples submitted for export which shows the slightest sign of slackness should be instantly rejected.

Pears packed in the "long" or "flat" box, however, should be made the exception to this rule. It is better for Pears in this box to be packed a little on the slack side rather than too tightly; Pears (particularly clear-skinned varieties such as Packham's Triumph and Josephines), are easily box marked, and this is a great disadvantage when submitted for sale.

The smooth, stiff paper lining used by some exporters was a distinct improvement on corrugated strawboard, and its use is strongly recommended to all concerned.

The subject of sizes and counts was discussed with many of those in the fruit trade at all ports and, without exception, the writer was informed that the trade required Pears to be packed to counts and not sizes. All Pears in the United Kingdom



Another example of
slack-packed fruit.

Dump boxes on
display in a sales
room, London.

AUSTRALIAN APPLES AND PEARS (Cont'd.)

are sold retail by number, and wholesale and retail buyers require to know the number of Pears contained in a box. One could often hear buyers at auction enquiring as to how many 2½ in., etc., Pears were in a box.

Count: Many importers stated that all Pears below 2½ in. should be omitted from "Fancy" grade and put into "Good" grade. I fully agree with this. In fact, I would limit all grades to 2½ in.; this should be the minimum size for both Apples and Pears.

The counts for Apples required in the United Kingdom are 125-138 (a limited number as early cookers), 150, 163, 175, 188, 198, 216, 234, 252, and Cox's 270 and 288. Of these, the following are required for Glasgow, 125, 138, 150, 163, also a limited number of 175.

Just here it could be mentioned that packing houses in Canada and the United States of America have a number of other counts in addition to those mentioned, but they are used for internal trade and not exported to the United Kingdom markets. Every country, except Australia, exporting to England, packs both Apples and Pears to counts. In practice, packing to correct counts can be done only in a properly-equipped, well-managed packing house.

Boxes: Fruit brokers, merchants, etc., did not hesitate to advise Victoria to retain the "flat" or "long" Pear box (26 in. x 14½ in. x 6 in. (internal dimensions, with a central division)). This box is well and favorably known by all who handle Australian Pears. Several merchants stated that on the same market it commands 1/- to 3/- per box higher than the Standard box, but it must contain not less than 40 lb. of fruit or the correct count.

An excellent instance of the value of this box came under the writer's notice at an auction sale in Glasgow. The S.S. "Dorset" arrived at this port in June with approximately 12,000 boxes of Pears, about 10,000 boxes being from Victoria and the remainder from Tasmania. There were only two brands from Victoria and over twenty from Tasmania. The Victorian lots were in the "flat" box and the Tasmanian in the hardwood "Standard." The varieties were the same from both States, i.e., B. Bosc, Josephine de Malines, Glou Morceau, Packham's Triumph, W. Cole, and a few Doyenne du Comice and Giblin's from Tasmania. With the exception of Comice, which realised from 12/6 to 14/6, the Tasmanian Pears sold for 7/6 to 9/9 per box, and those from Victoria from 12/6 to 17/- per box. The whole of this fruit was sold within the hour in the same auction room to the same buyers.

There was little or no difference regarding the quality of the fruit from the two States, and when I spoke to the two auctioneers—two firms did the selling—both pointed out that buyers would not be bothered with small lines and a multiplicity of brands, and the two Victorian brands were well and favorably known. One Tasmanian grower's 50 boxes on sale included four varieties and not less than three sizes for each variety. His fruit was well packed and of good quality, yet on a market worth from 12/6 to 17/-, his fruit realised 9/9 only.

The hardwood box, as at present made up, is anything but creditable to Australia (the Western Australian Apple box is the exception in appearance) and really should be eliminated from export. Even if it costs a little less for the timber, growers are losing money by using it. I feel sure that the timber



The extreme "crown" pack of W.B.C. Pears adopted in California. The "crown" or "bulge" measured 4½ and 5 inches.

used for these boxes could be put to a more profitable use, but it is difficult to convince growers that it is to their own interests to disregard this box. In this respect I feel that the Commonwealth Government would be doing a really good service to the industry, and to Tasmania in particular, if it prohibited the export of the hardwood dump.

The feelings of Western Australian growers in respect to the red jarrah, etc., box is well known, but I feel certain that if they fully realised the disabilities of that box in England they would adopt the pine Standard box. A note made by the writer while examining Australian Apples during discharge at the dock reads as follows:—"Practically all boxes under repair are W.A. 'dumps' (red). Nails spring out. Laborers drop them readily, possibly on account of extra weight." In repairing these boxes it is no uncommon sight to see them patched up with a white pine side, lid, bottom, etc. The ends in particular split very easily. If growers and shippers continue to use these boxes, they should be wired.

If Australia is to deliver really well-packed boxes of Apples

or Pears, in the respective Standard boxes, suitable timber, including a thinner and longer lid (¼ in. to ⅜ in. longer) must be used, while the proper nailing and handling equipment is essential. Generally speaking, the lid now in use is too thick (that is if the box is properly filled).

(To be continued.)

NO PINEAPPLES FOR N.Z.

Queensland Industry's Setback.

In addition to losing about 150,000 cases of Pines during the recent heatwave, Queensland growers are now faced with a problem created by the Government of New Zealand's restriction on the importation of Pineapples into that country from all sources. This is estimated to reflect a further loss of trade representing about 30,000 cases.

It is understood that representations are being made to N.Z. by the Commonwealth Department of Commerce to reconsider its present embargo.

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Apple orchards in the Hood River Valley, Oregon, U.S.A.

Illustrations by courtesy Victorian "Journal of Agriculture."



Fruit Bud Studies

"Tipping" and "Topping"

THE VALUABLE WORK of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research formed the subject of a paper recently by Mr. L. W. Andrew, of Waikerie, S. Aust. After discussing the various activities of the C.S.I.R., and making particular reference to the excellent work of the Merbein and other branches, Mr. Andrew continued as follows:—

MUCH HAS BEEN DONE in this field of research, and according to information to hand, it is necessary to pay more attention to the development of good, fruitful canes. Recently Dr. Barnard was asked if he could tell the extent of damage done to fruit buds after a heat wave, and if advice could be given to growers for the pruning season.

He thought that buds near the latter end of the cane might be damaged, and that it might be necessary to leave more canes and shorter on the sultana vines.

Then comes the question of the influence of "tipping and topping" on the Sultana vine, and its effect on fruit buds.

Experiments were carried out over three years on vines of different degrees of vigor, and the

effects of tipping at different times were compared.

The treatment did not appreciably affect yield during the first season, but it did increase fruit bud formation.

The greater number of bunches produced by the tipped vines during the second season resulted in an increased yield of fresh fruit. The sugar content of this fruit, however, was lower than that of control vines, and there was no significant difference in the yield of dried fruit. During the third season, no significant difference occurred in the number of bunches produced on treated and control vines, nor was there any difference in the yield of fresh fruit.

The sugar content of the fruit from the tipped vines was again definitely less than that of the others. A series of Baumé tests of the fruit on these vines showed that the difference in sugar content at harvest was associated with a lag in the maturation of the fruit of the tipped vines. Short growth as shown by the weight of prunings was also reduced. During the fourth season, results similar to those of the third season were obtained.

Finally, it was found that the effect of "tipping" on the weight of prunings persisted for at least one season after it was terminated.

The experiments of "topping" were carried out similar to those of "tipping," but the effects of drastic topping were comparable with, but more marked than, those of tipping. Yield was slightly greater during the first season, fruit bud formation was increased and the increased quantity of fresh fruit more than compensated for the loss of sugar content in the second year.

During the third season, however, the yield of fresh fruit from the control vines was greater than that of the "topped," the sugar content was greater and the yield of dried fruit was also much higher.

By the third season, the depressing effect of the treatment on the vigor of the vine was significantly manifest in both the number of buds and shoots produced per vine. The treatment was discontinued after the third season, but records were kept for the two following seasons.

During the first season after the treatment had ceased, the "topped" vines again produced a much lower yield of fresh fruit and lower sugar content.

The second year after "topping" had ceased no depression in yield was apparent, although reduced vigor was still a feature of the "topped" vines.

During the experiments six

typical canes were selected from each treatment in this experiment. These were subjected to chemical analysis to determine starch content and the minimum results were:—Control, 6.80 per cent.; Tipped, 4.96 per cent.; and Topped, 4.28 per cent. It will be noted that the difference between the control and the "topped" vines was significant, only arrived at by a scientific investigation. The loss of vigor accompanying "tipping" and "topping" is apparently associated with the reduction in the amount of carbohydrate reserves.

A general conclusion to be drawn from these scientific investigations seems to be (1) the effect of "tipping" depends on the severity of the treatment; (2) during the first season yield is slightly increased in vigorous vines, and fruit bud formation is stimulated; (3) the second season a marked increase in yield in fresh fruit, which is offset to some extent in a drop in sugar content.

HOW IS MILK MADE?

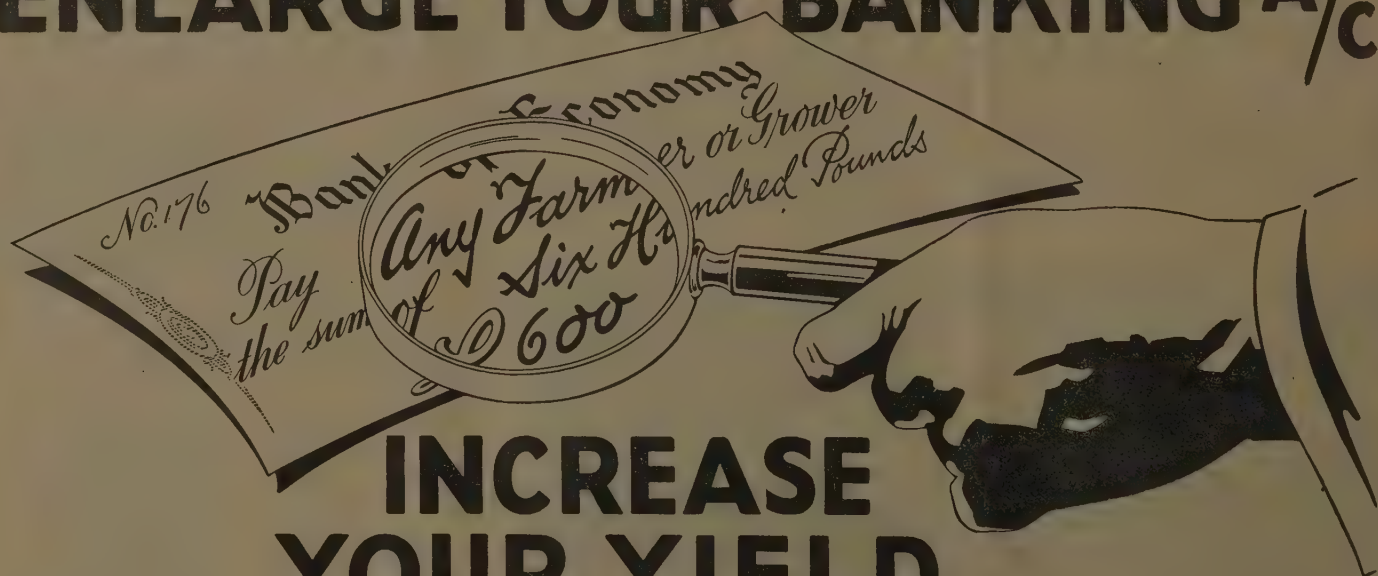
"Bridget, didn't I hear you quarrelling with the milkman this morning?"

"Ye did not, ma'am. I enquired about a milkmaid at the dairy."

"Yes, and—"

"Says I, 'How's the milkmaid?' an' he got in a tempest an' said, 'That's a trade secret.'"

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South Australian News and Notes



INCLUDING OFFICIAL NOTES AND REPORTS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' & MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.

Meeting of Executive Committee

THE Executive Committee of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Assn. Incorp., met in the Board Room, 288a Rundle-street, Adelaide, on Friday, March 29, 1940, at 10.30 a.m.

Present: Mr. H. N. Wicks (President), Messrs. J. B. Randell, J. Turner, H. W. Parsons, G. Jennings, L. J. Wicks, G. H. Schultz, O. Essalbach, W. J. Bishop, R. Jackson, G. T. Pitt, R. A. Cramond, F. Hughes and Secretary.

Apologies: Messrs. N. T. Hobbs, M. Packer and M. J. Vickers.

Minutes of February meeting taken as read and confirmed.

Correspondence.

Department of Information: Letter received stating that it was the intention of the Department to form various Committees in each State, and asked the Association to nominate a representative on the Producers' Committee.

Mr. J. B. Randell moved: "That the President represent the Association on the Producers' Committee with the Secretary as his deputy." Seconded Mr. O. Essalbach. Carried.

News Ltd.: Letter received expressing appreciation for co-operation in compiling the "Fruit Supplement" of the "Mail" on March 23.

Codling Moth Lure Records: Weekly-statements from the Department of Agriculture setting out codling moth lure records from the Government Orchard at Blackwood.

Apple and Pear Publicity: The chairman reported that the Secretary (A. Stuart) had been appointed as Secretary to the Apple and Pear Publicity Committee for South Australia, and the appointment would need confirmation by the Executive.

Mr. L. J. Wicks moved: "That the appointment be confirmed." Seconded Mr. J. B. Randell. Carried.

Manager, Government Experimental Orchard, Blackwood: Following previous correspondence on the matter, Mr. Schultz moved: "That Mr. Fowler, manager, Government Experimental Orchard, be invited to attend executive meetings of the Association whenever possible." Seconded Mr. W. J. Bishop. Carried.

SECTIONAL REPORTS.

Fruitgrowers' Society Ltd.: The Chairman (Mr. W. J. Bishop) reported on the very satisfactory progress being made by the trading section.

Celery Section: In the absence of the chairman, the Secretary reported that the 1940 export season had commenced. Difficulty with transport was being experienced, and weather conditions were causing trouble. The annual meeting of the section would be held on April 14.

Tomato Section: The Secretary reported that the annual meeting of the section would be held on Thursday, April 18.

Citrus Section: Messrs. O. Essalbach and L. J. Wicks reported that prospects were for a heavy crop. The quality of the fruit promised to be excellent.

Cherry Section: The Chairman (Mr. W. J. Bishop) advised that the annual meeting of the section would be held on Wednesday, April 17.

Soft Fruit Section: Mr. G. T. Pitt reported that the Peaches now on the markets were selling well. The quality was very good considering the weather.

Apple and Pear Section: Discussion took place on the Apple and Pear position in South Australia following the heat wave damage. The manner of price fixing was criticised, and Mr. W. J. Bishop moved: "That Messrs. R. A. Cramond, G. Clifton and J. Turner wait on the S.A. Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee to seek a larger grower representation on the

South Australia's Fruit and Vegetable Industries

Valuable Markets in Other States

BY THE PREMIER (MR. PLAYFORD).

During 1939 more than 500,000 packages of fresh fruit and about 300,000 packages of Celery, Tomatoes, and other vegetables were consigned from South Australia to other parts of the Commonwealth. Add to these figures wine valued at about £600,000 a year; dried fruits, nuts, and olive oil, and one may readily appreciate the importance of the industries and how valuable to South Australia are the markets in neighboring States.

THE fruit and vegetable industry of South Australia had its beginning in 1836, the year in which the State was founded. The pioneer settlers brought with them and planted fruit trees, vine cuttings, and other plants. Subsequently, introductions of further fruiting plants were made from New South Wales.

The first appreciable stimulus to commercial fruit production was the discovery and development of copper mines in various centres from 1842 to 1845, the growth of population in mining

centres providing the necessary market. During 1860 to 1880 the population of Adelaide steadily increased, and areas of fruit trees and vines expanded. At this time also are recorded the beginnings of interstate export trade in fruit, and about 1880 Adelaide grown Grapes had established a water-borne trade with Victoria.

The next important development was the foundation of irrigated settlement at Renmark in 1887. In 1893, the entire irrigated fruit area (953 acres) was concentrated at Renmark, but a year later, extensions to other parts of the Murray Valley took place during a period of financial depression and unemployment. The Government of the day thought to find a solution of prevailing difficulties in the pursuit of land settlement on communistic principles in the Murray Valley, and thus it was that "village settlements" were founded at different centres along the Murray. Although they failed in one sense, the "village settlements" developed the river banks, and most of them persist to-day as flourishing irrigation centres.

Export Increase.

Following closely upon the development of the river settlements came a marked extension of Apple plantings, and the growth of an export trade to United Kingdom in Apples, Pears and Oranges. The first commercial export of Apples to

Price Fixing Committee." Seconded Mr. G. H. Schultz. Carried.

Selling License: Mr. R. Jackson advanced the suggestion of the Association taking out a selling license for Apples and Pears, and following discussion Mr. W. J. Bishop moved: "That it be a recommendation to the Fruitgrowers' Society to apply for a license to sell Apples and Pears." Seconded Mr. R. Cramond. Carried.

Marion Branch: Mr. H. F. Parsons reported a good crop of Almonds this season with prices slightly better than last season. As the main function of the Marion Branch was Almonds, he suggested that all Almond growers use the branch channels for the distribution of their crops.

Financial Statement: The Secretary presented the financial statement, and submitted accounts for payment.

Resolved, that statement be received and accounts paid.

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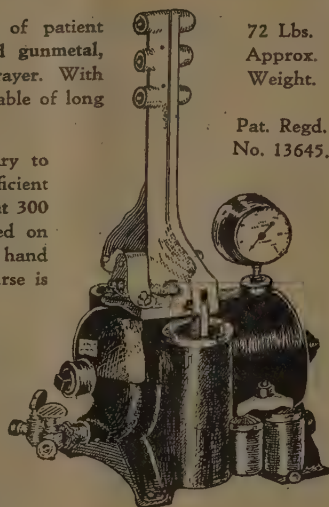
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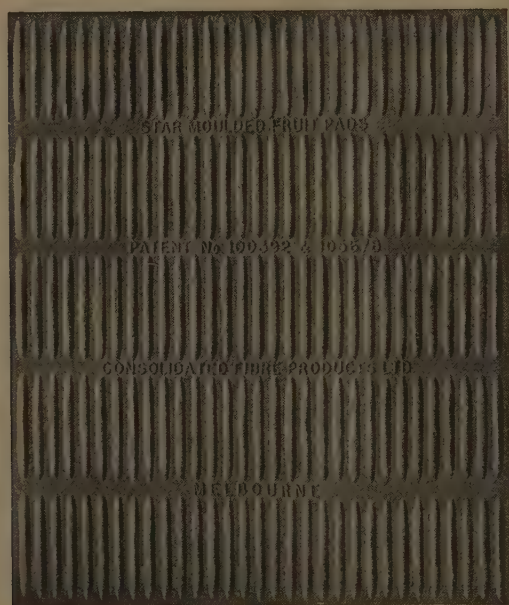
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Use—
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(Patent)



Moulded corrugated pads are the greatest advance ever made in fruit packing. They are resilient, odourless, moisture-proof. They act as a cushion and give better air circulation thus preventing damage to the fruit whilst in transit or in Cool Store.

SIZES:—12 x 6, 13½ x 6, 12 x 14, 17½ x 8, 17½ x 11.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA — (Continued)

United Kingdom was made in 1896—647 boxes were exported by the Government Produce Department on behalf of several growers. Fifteen years later, annual exports of South Australian Apples were 188,000 boxes. Also, between 1896 and 1906, the number of Orange trees in the State increased from 73,000 to 165,000.

With the establishment of irrigation settlements, fruitgrowers, vignerons, and market gardeners are now widely distributed throughout South Australia. Their crops aggregate more than £2,500,000 in normal seasons.

In normal times, nearly £1,000,000 worth of dried fruits are sent overseas, and as dried fruit does not require refrigerated transport, it is hoped that fruit in this form, as well as canned fruit, will be readily sold and shipped to the British Government during the war. Some difficulty has been experienced recently in finding space for wine shipment, but here again the fact that wine is shipped in non-refrigerated holds will improve prospects of its movement overseas.

In the case of fresh fruit, however, growers and exporters are facing considerable difficulties. Overseas export of fresh fruit from South Australia is comprised chiefly of Apples, Pears and Oranges — experience and research having shown these fruits normally capable of long-distance transport in refrigerated holds.

Big Problem.

On the other hand, the Apple and Pear industry is in an unenviable position. Approximately one-half of Australia's Apple production is normally exported, chiefly to the United Kingdom or to Continental ports. During the war, it is unlikely that the usual four to five million boxes will be so exported; a market will still exist in Europe, but refrigerated holds will not be available for shipment of more than a fraction of normal quantities. Somehow, the Australian consumption of Apples has to be increased by several million bushels a year, and it is

hoped that every member of the community will lend a helping hand in this task.

The Apple growers will do their part in improving the grading and general quality of the fruit offered to the public—it is incumbent on every citizen to do his part. Buy more Apples: you will enjoy eating them, they will improve your general health, and, above all, you will be assisting that section of the community which is feeling more keenly than any other the effects of the war.

Large Acreage in South Australia.

Statistics show that South Australia has 101,564 acres devoted to orchards, vineyards, and market gardens. This total is made up as follows:—

Vineyards ..	58,020 acres
Fruit trees ..	28,943 acres
Vegetable crops ..	14,601 acres

The opportunities for an increased production in the fruit and vegetable industry in South Australia are very great, the only difficulty is to find suitable markets. The Government realises the importance of the home market and the benefit that will accrue to not only fruit-growers and market gardeners, but to primary producers generally by an increased population. This has always proved to be the surest and best market. It is for this reason that we have devoted so much attention recently to the establishment of new industries in this State. They alone provide a market that cannot be taken from us.

It is essential that there should be a more balanced economy as between the primary and secondary industries. The more industries that become established, the more employment will be given, the more wages paid, with a consequent benefit to producers. We have met with considerable success up to the present, and I am confident that many more industries will be established in the future.—"Adelaide Mail."

SUGAR AGREEMENT EXTENDED.

Prices Will be Maintained.

The Prime Minister announced on March 3 that a sugar agreement would be extended for five years from September 1, 1941. Prices were unchanged and present sugar prices will be maintained. The price of 1A refined sugar would be £33/4/- per ton with proportionate prices for all other grades. The prices will obtain at all capital centres and Fremantle, Launceston and Darwin.

Mr. Menzies said that the proposed renewal of the sugar agreement at existing prices would be advantageous to consumers by producing stability.

It was important to remember that the present capital city retail price of sugar of 4d. a lb. was only 33 per cent. more than the usual pre-1914 price of 3d. a lb., whereas the average retail price of all foods and groceries had increased by 61 per cent., and the average of Commonwealth and State basic wages had increased by 68 per cent.

The average return to sugar producers for raw sugar was now only half the 1920-1922 amount, and was down to the returns obtained in many pre-1914 seasons when sugar wages and other costs were much less than at present, said Mr. Menzies.

These results had only been made possible by a tremendous improvement of efficiency in all phases of sugar production.

South Australian Fruit Marketing Association

The monthly meeting of the executive of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association was held at Adelaide on March 29.

There were present: Messrs. M. G. Basey, H. N. Wicks, R. G. Hannaford, J. B. Randell, G. S. Queale, L. J. Bishop, R. B. Pritchard, A. G. Strickland, F. F. Redden, H. M. Charlick, G. Quinn, R. A. Cramond, S. M. James, F. B. James, W. W. Miller, F. Rowley, R. H. A. Lewis, and the Secretary.

The President, Mr. J. B. Randell, occupied the chair.

Correspondence: Letters from the Government Produce Dept., dated February 22 and March 12, advising that South Australia was entitled to take the fullest advantage of whatever opportunities occur to dispose of Apples and Pears at satisfactory figures in the Broken Hill market.

Work of the two Associations: Mr. H. N. Wicks brought up the matter of the double banking of work carried out by this Association and the S.A. Fruit Growers' and Market Gardeners' Association, and suggested that an effort should be made for the two bodies to work in conjunction and avoid the present overlapping.

He stated that he had no ideas at the present time as to how this should be brought about, but he was definitely not in favor of the discontinuance of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association.

Mr. H. M. Charlick stated that he had heard that the Fruit-growers and Market Gardeners' Association was antagonistic to the merchants.

Mr. Wicks stated that this was not so at the present time.

Mr. M. G. Basey considered that the antagonism mentioned by Mr. Charlick had been in existence.

Mr. G. S. Queale spoke strongly in favor of retaining the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association, of the desirability of having the organisation in existence when the war ended and in all probability it would prove extremely useful before the end of the war.

Mr. J. B. Randell also spoke strongly in favor of the continuance of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association, which he stated had reconciled the antagonistic spirit which had existed between growers and merchants. Other members also supported the continuance of the Association, and at the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. H. N. Wicks expressed his appreciation of the manner in which the matter had been discussed and hoped that some member would be able to think out a satisfactory scheme to get over the present difficulties.

Research Sub-Committee: The chairman of the Research Sub-

Committee, Mr. M. G. Basey, reported that at the meeting, consideration had been given to changing the name of the Sub-Committee from Research to some more suitable title, and the matter had been deferred until the April meeting to give members an opportunity of thinking over the matter and bringing suggestions forward. In his opinion this Sub-Committee was a very important one, and grower members should do everything possible to make a success of the work of the Committee. He suggested continuing on the basis commenced last year, namely, putting a member of the Sub-Committee in charge of the monthly meeting, such member to be responsible for either delivering a paper or initiating a discussion, so that problems could be considered which would help in reducing costs.

The Royal Agricultural Society had notified that the Show would now be held in September next, and they had asked for the altered conditions to apply to the prizes given by this Association, and the Secretary had advised the Society of the recommendations agreed to at the meeting held on November 24 last, namely:—

Classes: 5 cases Apples of one variety; 5 cases Pears of one variety.

To be wrapped, packed and labelled under export conditions. Fruit to be delivered into cold store not later than May 1. To be judged a week before the Show, and to be reconditioned after judging. Entries to be confined to legitimate growers and packed by the growers themselves or their permanent employees. Cases not to be opened until time of judging. The society to advise if fruit needs reconditioning.

Cool store representatives had been asked to bring the matter before their growers with a view to obtaining entries and taking delivery of the fruit and holding it on behalf of the growers until sent to the Government Produce Department.

Arsenical Residue on Apples: This matter had been discussed and Mr. A. G. Strickland had answered a number of questions, but it was decided not to take any action at the present time.

Leaf Scorch on Josephine Pears: Mr. A. G. Strickland had undertaken to investigate the cause.

Apple and Pear Acquisition Scheme.

Mr. F. F. Redden stated that at the request of a number of growers, he asked that the Association should request the State Committee to give up the idea of stickers on open cases for the Adelaide market. In the opinion of the growers, a great deal of extra work was in-

Dried Fruits Notes

SEASONAL FRUIT PICKERS.

Many Problems Discussed.

At a conference between casual fruit pickers, and growers, held at Red Cliffs (Vic.) recently, many problems affecting the influx of pickers were discussed. It was reported that camp facilities, though improvement was promised by Government at the close of last season, were still bad, and some speakers urged that a central body should be provided through which this and other matters could be arranged.

It was also appreciated that Police Officers had shown a friendlier attitude towards casual workers, but argued that the payment of sustenance, 5/-, was inadequate when compared with the metropolitan rate of 17/6 per week. Another suggestion of a local labor bureau was disapproved in view of the fact that growers preferred to select men whom they had previously employed. Official picking-up places, on lines similar to the system used for waterside workers was commended.

On the whole the voluntary conference of all parties was considered a move that would effect better mutual understanding and result in more satisfactory conditions being possible.

DRIED FRUITS LEVY.

The Chairman of the Victorian Dried Fruits Board (Mr. Parker Moloney) announced to the press on March 8 that the levy to be paid by dried fruits packers for the 1940 season had been fixed at 4/3 per ton, the same as was paid last year.

involved and no benefit at all was obtained.

After discussion it was resolved:—

"That the Secretary convey this request to the Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee."

Mr. Redden also drew attention to anomalies existing at the present time in connection with the scheme at the Adelaide market.

Mr. Strickland and Mr. Bishop replied pointing out the difficulties under which the Committee had been working, and they hoped that from now on the scheme would work more smoothly and as the scheme was definitely established for this season co-operation of the growers was necessary in their own interests.

It was hoped that it would be possible to have improved methods if the scheme was carried out next season.

A general discussion then took place in regard to various problems that had arisen in regard to marketing.

Substantiating the fixing of the levy, the Chairman explained that although it was anticipated that expenditure would exceed revenue if the level of the levy were maintained, the Board had decided to draw upon its reserve account, if necessary, rather than increase the levy to meet the increased costs, thus assisting growers.

DRYING RACKS.

When erecting drying racks, the direction of prevailing winds should be considered. Drying is done by wind rather than by sun, and provision should be made to erect the racks at the correct angle. In Mildura, for instance, the racks run north and south to meet local conditions and even heat. Some growers, however, erect their racks on an angle to give protection against the hottest sun of the day, generally around 11 a.m. sometimes it is necessary to provide some shade in which case the afternoon sun is the worst. Careful shading ensures that all racks will dry evenly.

INCREASED PRUNE VALUES.

California produces about 90 per cent. of all Prunes in U.S.A., and last year the production amounted to 184,000 dry tons of fruit. This was less than the production in 1938, but returned a higher net return to growers in that the price per ton went to £17, as against £11 in the previous year. It is estimated that the value of Prune production is worth about £3,000,000 per annum.

RECORDS AT PACKING SHEDS.

409 Tons in a Day.

On Monday, March 18, the Red Cliffs Co-operative Company (Victoria) reported having broken all records by receiving 409 tons of dried fruits during the day. This is an all-time record for this shed, and the management reported consistent good quality fruit.

At the Aurora Shed another local record was made when 105 tons of dried fruit was processed by one machine in the working period of 8½ hours. Here also the quality of the fruit was reported as high.

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Victorian News

Pakenham Show

The Pakenham H. and A. Show, held on March 19, though slightly below the record for attendance established last year, was very satisfactorily conducted. Owing to the recent dry spell the pavilion exhibits were not as numerous as usual.

In the fruit section, the Gerard Shield for Apple packing by schools was again won by the Pakenham Upper State School, whilst the individual prize was won by Miss Phyllis Stuckberry.

The following awards in the fruit section were reported:—
Champion Collection Apples: D. C. and W. M. Black. Three Dishes: F. Kennedy. Dishes.—
2½ in. Jonathans: R. G. Begg;

2½ in. Jonathans: J. J. Ahern. Statesman: F. Kennedy. Roke-wood: W. H. Carne. Rome Beauty: W. H. Carne. Delicious: C. L. Constable. Granny Smith: Mrs. Schreuder. Nine Specimens.—2½ in. Jonathans: J. J. Ahern; 2½ in. Jonathans: J. J. Ahern. Granny Smith: Mrs. Schreuder. Delicious: R. G. Begg. Champion Case Jonathans: Miss Nell Black. Case of Jonathans, Selected at Random from Load: J. J. Ahern. Case of Granny Smith: Mrs. Schreuder. Two Cases Apples: Valley View Orchard. Three Cases: D. C. and W. M. Black. Three Trays: D. C. and W. M. Black. Pears.—Three Dishes: W. H. Carne. Packham's Triumph: Mrs. Sch-

reuder. Any Other Variety Pear: W. H. Carne. Passion-fruit: Mrs. W. Deveney. Lemons: J. J. Ahern. Quinces: Mrs. Schreuder.

Much of the prize-winning fruit has been put into cool store in order to be available for public display during Apple Week in Melbourne, April 22 to 27.

RAILWAYS MILITARY VALUE.

Also Assistance to the Fruit Industry.

Although Victorian railways were primarily constructed for developmental reasons, they can be of potential assistance for military purposes, claims the March bulletin issued by the Railways Department. Already the railways are moving in close

co-operation with the Defence Department and have already transported many thousands of troops and much military equipment.

Should the occasion arise for quick movement of troops for the defence of Australia, the railways would be prepared and transport would be facilitated. It is interesting to note also that members of the Victorian Railways staff are at present giving valuable service in directing railway services in Palestine, where rail transport has so largely entered into the successful movement of Australian A.I.F. troops in that country.

The railways are also assisting the fruit industry in many ways, including the movement of Apples, Oranges, etc., also publicity to stimulate the consumption of fruit.

MADE-IN-AUSTRALIA GOODS.

Window Display Competition.

The Shepparton (Vic.) Chamber of Commerce is to be commended for sponsoring a campaign in the interests of made-in-Australia goods. Shopkeepers will compete in arranging attractive windows and will display Australian goods exclusively during the campaign which will commence on April 5. Prizes will be presented for the best windows in several sections, and the public will be invited to cast their votes for what they consider to be the best displays.

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Bigger and better business is our objective.

We make advances to cover cost of freight, etc.

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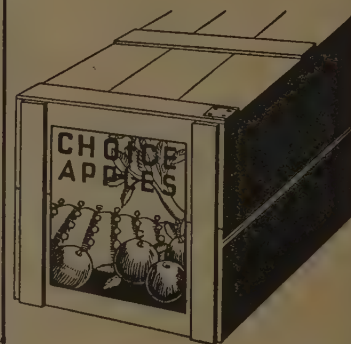
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New South Wales News and Notes

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas

FAVORABLE FRUIT DRYING SEASON — LIGHT APPLE CROPS —
CANNING PEACHES — PRICES FOR WINE GRAPES DISCUSSED —
— BEETLES ATTACKING RICE CROPS — HARVESTING THE—
CANNING TOMATO CROP.

(By Our Correspondent.)

THE continued spell of fine hot weather has been very favorable for the fruit drying, and although the Sultana crop owing to the ravages of frost early in the season, followed by severe attacks of black spot on the sappy foliage which followed, and also the severe attacks of the vine moth caterpillar, which was particularly bad this season, has been very light on most farms, yet the sample in nearly every case where there has been a crop, is of a very fine color and quality, which can largely be attributed to the favorable drying conditions which existed. The dip used to produce one of the best samples was caustic soda, 1-25, temp. of 185 deg. F.

Last year when larger crops of Sultanas were in evidence, the season was particularly unfavorable to drying, and many growers lost their crops when the fruit was nearly dry.

The same unfortunate circumstance was attributable to the very severe loss last season that the Prune growers sustained, but this year

the Prune crop

is turning out very well, specially in the Prune d'Agens, but although a few very fair crops of Robe Prunes are to be seen, generally speaking this variety is very light, although what fruit there is, is of a fine size and quality.

Apple Crops.

Although there are a few small crops of red Apples, Jonathans and King Davids, the Granny Smith has been a complete failure all over the Area, and it is a debatable point whether thrips or frost was the main cause of the failure, many growers being convinced that the latter trouble was the cause, with thrips a contributing feature.

On one or two farms there was a really good crop of Granny Smiths, and on one farm in the Lake Wyangan area, an exceptionally heavy crop of this variety was being carried on a row of trees growing alongside a planting of King David variety, which were also carrying a good crop of exceptionally good fruit, yet on adjacent farms the entire crop was lost.

This looks almost like the vagaries of frost, which appears at times to strike indiscriminately throughout an orchard.

The fact remains, however, that the crop throughout the whole area has been very meagre, and therefore prices have been well maintained, and most growers forwarded their fruit to the Sydney markets in order to obtain the good prices for "cookers" then prevailing, and also to clear up what few cases they had before the March 1, the day appointed for the Apple and Pear Acquisition Board to take over all fruit.

Most of the Pears, of which there was a very good crop on most farms, have been already picked and sent to the canneries, and only the later varieties remain, prices obtained for any which have been sent on to the open market have been very satisfactory.

The Peach crop

is turning out very satisfactorily, and growers whose trees have survived the past wet Winter, and which are in a healthy condition, are harvesting good crops of very fine quality fruit.

The general manager of the Leeton Cannery, Mr. H. J. Williams, remarked that the fruit was going in, in an ideal condition, and growers should not get behind with the picking of their fruit under the existing weather conditions, and though fruit should not be picked on the green side, yet crops were inclined to ripen up very quickly and required close attention.

Just on a thousand hands were employed at the Leeton Cannery, and work is being speeded up with the increasing deliveries of fruit, overtime was worked for the first time this season during the early part of the month.

The Griffith Producers' Co-op. Company has also been forwarding large quantities of Peaches to canneries in Sydney, and the foresight of the directors of the company in providing the large extra accommodation for cold storage, has been manifested to the fullest extent.

This new cool store has been completed at a cost of nearly £7,000, and will certainly prove its value this year. With the long run of high temperatures the fruit ripened up very rapidly, and growers have used every effort to prevent any loss, and in spite of the fact that many growers have sustained severe losses among their trees, owing

to the exceptionally wet Winter last year, yet those trees which have remained in a condition of health have carried fine crops, and Mr. R. Mallinson, the general manager of the company estimates that in the final count the tonnage will not be far below the average.

Some specially fine crops of both Golden Queen and Pullars Cling are to be seen on some of the younger planted orchards, and props to hold up the limbs are to be seen in many farms, the fruit is some 10 days later than usual, and Mr. Mallinson estimates that the peak of the season will be reached by the middle of March.

The Late Valencia crop is about finished, and those fortunate growers who have had fruit holding until the present time have realised prices as high as 25/- a case.

Grapes have been forwarded to the markets for nearly a fortnight, and although some of the earlier consignments of Waltham Cross were sent far too green, yet subsequent consignments have reached the required Beaumé test. Some exceptionally fine Black Muscat Grapes have been packed by growers, and the Gordo Blanco has been forwarded during the past week.

Some specially fine Ribier Grapes have realised as high as 11/- per half case, and generally growers have been well satisfied with their returns.

Cornichons are now up to the required test, in fact exceed the 9 degs. Beaumé that is required as a standard, and in a few cases are very well colored, but others are on the green side in appearance, although coming up to test.

The wine Grape growers have not such a satisfactory position to face, as they believe that the action taken by the Commonwealth Government to fix prices

of winegrapes for home consumption on the same level as for export will prove to be of little value to them.

The vintners, on their part, claim that the Government's action has placed a very serious obstacle in their way, and that reduced purchases of Grapes from the growers must be the result.

Mr. J. R. McWilliams, manager of the Hanwood Winery of the firm of McWilliam, stated very emphatically: "My principal reaction is resentment at Government interference in this matter," as there was no necessity for it.

The new schedule of prices made available by the Customs Department, for the Mirool area, are as follow:—

	Beaumé	
	degs.	
Ouillade	15	£6 5 0
Doradillo	12	5 15 0
Frontignac	15	7 10 0
Greenache	14	7 0 0
Hermitage	14	6 0 0
Malbeck	14	7 5 0
Malaga	14	6 5 0
Muscatel	14	6 10 0
Riesling	13	6 10 0
Shiraz	15	7 15 0
Pedro Ximines	13	6 10 0
Gordos	14	6 10 0

Mr. McWilliams stated that there was no need for any Government interference, as his company had offered the growers an increase of 5/- a ton on last season's figures, which offer was communicated to the President of the Wine Grapes Marketing Board (Mr. J. C. Thorne) and through him to the Minister of Customs, so he understood, yet the Government had seen fit to reject the offer and fix the prices.

Mr. G. Grant, Secretary of the Beelbanger Winery also expressed a qualified opposition to the action of the Government, which he said had only taken a half measure, the price fixed by



Picking Wine Grapes in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas.

the Government is one that makes is impossible for us to market our wines or compete, he said.

Many of the growers are in the fear that only half their crop will be purchased by the wineries, and owing to the shortage of table Grapes on the Sydney market, quite a fair quantity of Oueillade Grapes have been sent forward to supply a demand for fresh fruit.

The present Grape crop is not expected to reach the estimate that was originally forecast, and it remains to see if, with the short crop, the various companies on the area will ultimately absorb the full production.

Not only are the fruitgrowers of the area suffering from shortages in some of their crops, but

the Rice growers have also suffered through the ravages of the Rice beetles which have made their appearance among the Rice crops of the area.

Mr. F. Autry Hall, acting Agricultural Instructor in his report dealing with the irrigation areas, states that the Rice

crops generally are considerably later than last season; in most cases the crops are still heading, the cool weather prevailing during February appears to have checked maturity.

Rice beetles are making their presence felt among the Rice crops to a far greater extent than in the previous season of 1932-33, which was similar to the present one in that it followed a wet Winter, which makes conditions particularly favorable for this pest.

This insect attacks the Rice flowers and young Rice until it reaches the hard dough stage. Control is not practical on large areas.

Various aquatic birds have also done considerable damage to Rice crops, and bald coots, moorhens and redbills have caused great loss to growers.

Wild ducks in large numbers have also appeared, and at the opening of the duck season many excellent bags were recorded.

The canning Tomato crop, which is the largest yet sown on

this area is giving excellent results, harvesting is in full swing, and some splendid samples are being harvested.

Tomato mite has been in evidence, and growers have been advised by the Instructor to continue to sulphur their crops, choosing the early morning as the best period to apply this dusting.

Mice have appeared in many paddocks in great numbers, and are expected to infest haystacks and sheds when the feed now in the paddocks becomes scarcer.

Verily the growers' lot is not all joy or profit, and every crop, whether fruit or cereals, seems to have some pest to attack it, and constant vigilance on the part of growers is essential in order to reap the full reward of their labors. Yet, in spite of all, the hunger for land still remains, people face all manner of privations and difficulties with ever the hope ahead that some day they will overcome all obstacles and reach the goal of their ambitions.

Sydney Show

Splendid Fruit Exhibits.

There was a splendid display of fruit at the recent Royal Show at Sydney during Easter.

In the section for pyramids of Apples and Pears the double again went to Tallong. Their Apples included Jonathan, Granny Smith and Delicious (total points 86½); Pears, Packham's Triumph, Winter Cole, B. Bosc, and Josephine (total points 86½).

Orange, with 85 points for Apples and 85½ points for Pears, came a close second. Their Apples were Jon., G.S. and Del.; Pears, B. Bosc, Packhams and Winter Cole.

Hartley orchardists, with 78½ points came third in the Apple Section; their varieties were Jon., G.S., and Del. In the Pear Section Hartley came fourth, with B. Bosc, Williams, P.T., and Marie Louise.

With their pyramid of Jon., G.S., Del. and Rome Beauty, Goulburn received a highly commended card for fourth place. In the Pear Section, however, they came third; the varieties displayed were B. Bosc., P.T., Winter Cole, and Glou Morceau.

In the Open Classes for G.S., Jon., R.B., Del., Democrat, Stayman Winesap, Yates, Macintosh Red, London Pippin, etc., prizes were won by R. H. Charles & Sons, L. S. Salter, R. W. Scott, P. M. Baaner, N. W. Ross, Norris & Sons, Vanzella Bros., J. S. Cripps, H. Bird.

In the Export Classes many of the foregoing won prizes; others included C. C. Barberie and Rutz Bros. & Sons.

In the Pear Section for both display and export, prizes were distributed among those already mentioned.

For Grapes, Quinces, Persimmons, Passionfruit, etc., the prize-winners were F. J. Bohringer, C. E. Smith, L. S. Salter, Morris & Sons.

Mr. P. M. Baanar won the prize for most successful exhibitor in fruit classes; cup for best Stayman Winesap (W. S. Cripps); for best export Apple in case (Morris & Sons).

In the Agricultural Hall there was a wonderful array of exhibits, the district collections revealing marvellous productivity and resourcefulness.

The Banana Growers of N.S.W. and Queensland had an excellent display of Bananas in bunches, included also were Pineapples, Avocados, and Monstera deliciosa. The S. Aust. Celery Growers put up a good exhibit of Celery for display purposes.

Another interesting exhibit was that of the Junior Farmers, showing a wide range of products, while the Department of Agriculture showed a valued range of educational subjects.

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The steering arms are drop forged from the best mild steel and the main wheels are equipped with ball bearings.

Two medium horses can work this machine all day without tiring. A machine may be obtained for a trial at any time.

Double Furrow

A sturdy, strong plow equipped with reversible discs to enable the operator to plow up to, or away from the trees. Operated by a single lever and with nothing to catch branches of trees. To facilitate the movement of the plow around the orchard the discs are movable and lift clear of the ground.

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It gave me the power of 260 pairs of hands in a simple and compact form; the lever is short, so that I am able to stand firm-footed and get the full stroke. There are two speeds in the machine, as well as an automatic release that allows me to let off a strain, or as the machine will work in any position, it comes in for all jobs that would require a chain block. It is taken to the job on a pair of wheels like a barn truck, and is rigged for work in a few minutes. The ropes are in lengths that I find easy to handle, and each one is fitted with hook and loop couplings, so simple and absolutely IT for effectiveness. The makers have included a sturdy snatch block with a novel method of securing to the ropes, and also a fine type of firm gripping rope shortener. The latter makes it very easy to accommodate the lengths of rope to the tree or stump being pulled, and is quickly released from the rope. The combination of so many time and labor saving features makes the "Monkey" Grubber a superior grubbing outfit.

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CANNING AND JAM FRUITS

Goulburn Valley News and Notes

CANNERIES HANDLING THE PEAR AND PEACH CROPS —
EARLY CLOSING OF FRUIT SHOPS DEPLORED — SUCCESS
OF ORIENTAL PEACH MOTH PARASITE.

(By Our Correspondent.)

The month of March has been particularly dry and warm with a severe heat wave in the second week, when the temperature was well over the century for six consecutive days, which materially assisted in ripening up the Pullar Cling crop, which, owing to the previous cool weather, was much later in ripening than usual.

There is nothing outstanding to report for the month. Growers generally have been busy harvesting the Pullar Cling crop. Picking commenced on or about March 14, and most growers will be finished before the end of the month and will now soon be thinking about a well-earned holiday.

The Peach crop generally has been comparatively light this year, and the tonnage delivered to factories is very much below that of normal years, although the fruit has been of good size and of excellent quality, and the damage from Oriental Peach moth for the whole of the district would not be more than 5 per cent., while another 5 per cent. of the crop was damaged by the brown Apple moth, which has been prevalent in the Valley this Summer.

The Summer has been particularly dry, only about 34 pts. of rain has been recorded since about the middle of last November. This has made the irrigation season an exceptionally busy one. Heavy demands for water have been continuous throughout the season, but unlike 1939, there has been a plentiful supply for all, and the latest figures for March 4 were Eildon Weir 143,000 acre feet, Goulburn Weir 19,800 acre feet and Waranga Basin 225,800 acre feet.

Canneries Have Busy Season.

The canneries have had a busy season: working long hours and overtime on Sundays and holidays, chiefly on Williams Pears, which are now finished, and satisfactory packs of good quality fruit are reported, and as most of the Pullar Cling Peaches are going direct to the cutters, there being very little fruit in cool store, it is expected that processing will finish about the first week in April.

With a staff of approximately 500 working to capacity, the Kyabram cannery is endeavoring to complete as far as possible the processing of Pears before the commencement of the late Peaches.

Following the good Apricot season, the tonnage of Pears compare favorably with other years.

To assist growers who had a surplus after delivering to export shippers, the management has taken quantities of Packham Pears, but the period for the reception of this variety has now closed.

In view of the Peaches being late in coming to hand, it is anticipated there will not be a large carryover of Pears for storage, until after the processing of the Peaches. An endeavor is being made to curtail this carryover as far as possible.

The Country Women's Association are to be congratulated on the stand they have taken in opposing the by-law which compels fruit shops in the city and suburbs to close at 7 p.m. on week nights and 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Mrs. Irwen (Kyabram) moved "That we protest against the 7 p.m. weekly nights and 1 p.m. on Saturdays closing of shops for the sale of fruit in the city and suburbs."

As this area was largely a fruit-growing district, she stated such a law restricted the sale of fruit, which on account of its perishable nature should be marketed immediately.

It was the fruit growers, and not the merchants, who really lost, when the fruit became too ripe for sale.

The resolution was seconded by Mrs. Watt, and was supported by Shepparton East and Murchison.

The Group President stated she had approached the authorities on this question, and found that this law was strongly enforced in certain parts of the city and suburbs.

Such a motion would have to be put by a metropolitan branch in an affected area, to which the Goulburn Valley group could give support. The matter was left in the hands of the group president to take the matter further.

Oriental Moth Parasite.

Mr. G. Helson, officer in charge of the laboratories at Mooropna, who has been experimenting for the last three years in the Goulburn Valley on the Oriental Peach moth, has just about completed the season work, and is very gratified that the parasites from U.S.A., introduced into the orchards of the Valley of last Spring, are continually reproducing themselves, and a store of parasite cocoons have been placed in cool store in an endeavor to carry them over till next Spring.

Mr. Helson has been very interested and enthusiastic in his work: and has shown great patience, skill and ability in doing his part to find a remedy for the

Oriental Peach moth, which destroys hundreds of tons of canning Peaches annually. His magnificent work is greatly appreciated by all fruit growers and canneries.

Obituary.

We regret to record the death of Mr. J. H. Davies, Postmaster of Merrigum, who was killed in a motor accident at Murchison while returning from the city, where his wife is an inmate in a private hospital. The injured man was rushed to the Mooropna Base Hospital, but succumbed from his injuries.

He was the son of the late Mr. J. Hugh Davies, who used to be engaged in the fruit growing industry at Ardmona.

CANNED FRUITS EXPORTS—JAN.-FEB., 1940.

Up to February 29, 1940, the following exports are reported by the Australian Canned Fruits Board. The figures are expressed in cases and represent 7,509 cases for the first two months of the export season. The varieties and destinations are shown:—

Country.	Apricots.	Peaches.	Pears.	Fruit Salad.	Pine-apple.	Total.
U.K.	2,000	—	600	—	—	2,600
N.Z.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
East	2,071	1,609	829	50	—	4,559
Misc.	79	136	125	—	10	350
Total	4,150	1,745	1,554	50	10	7,509

Fruit Canning Industry in Japan

THE OUTPUT of canned fruits in Japan has increased very considerably in recent years, and in 1938 the total output amounted to approximately 3,000,000 cases, as compared with only about 1,500,000 cases in 1933, and 550,000 cases in 1930.

Pineapples have been canned in Formosa since 1904, and until about ten years ago the output of other fruits was negligible.

Since 1930, however, while there has been a substantial increase in the production of canned Pineapple, there has been an even greater expansion in the output of other kinds of canned fruit, and whereas in 1932 Pineapples accounted for over 80 per cent. of the total, in 1937 the proportion had fallen to under 40 per cent.

This change has been due largely to the rapid growth of the Orange canning industry, and in 1937 the output of canned Mandarin Oranges, at about 1,200,000 cases, was larger than that of canned Pineapple.

The production of Mandarin Oranges continues to expand, and the estimated total for 1938 was 1,500,000 cases.

Most of the canned Pineapple produced in Formosa is consumed in Japan, and prior to 1933 the exports of canned fruit accounted for less than 10 per cent. of the production. Larger quantities of canned Pineapple are now being shipped abroad, especially to the United States, and with a marked development of the export trade in canned Mandarin Oranges the exports of canned fruit now represent about 45 per cent. of the total output. — ("Australian Food Manufacture.").

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PEARS, PEACHES, APRICOTS,
BERRIES, CHERRIES.

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Canned Pineapples for U.K. Cannery's Annual Conference

Japan is Australia's Chief Competitor

INCREASED EXPORT TRADE FROM AUSTRALIA POSSIBLE ONLY WITH REGULAR SUPPLIES OF HIGHEST QUALITY FRUIT.

Commenting on the Pineapple trade, the British Empire Producers' Organisation, London, recently stated that under normal circumstances there was room in England for larger imports of medium and high-grade Pineapples, and that under certain conditions Australia could export more canned Pineapples to U.K.

Other points made in the report were:—

That 92 per cent. of the canned Pines into England consisted of the cheap and popular Malayan product. The highest quality pack came from Hawaii.

The special type and flavor of S. African canned Pines held a limited clientele.

Australia's chief menace was Japan. Canned Pineapple from that country were of equal quality with Queensland, and much cheaper.

The future of Australian canned Pineapple export depended on regular supplies of a high quality product to compete with Hawaii.

Fresh Pineapples.

So far the report stated that the export of fresh Pineapples from Australia had not proved economic. In the opinion of the trade, only highest quality fruit, such as now received from S. Africa and the Azores, was a payable proposition, such fruit selling at 2/6 each wholesale.

Cannery's Annual Conference

15,000 Delegates.

As showing the value placed upon conferences by American interests, it is reported that at the 33rd Annual Conference of the National Cannery Association, recently held at Chicago, there were 15,000 delegates and visitors present. Every room of the great Stevens Hotel was booked up weeks ahead. Other allied conventions held at the same time included Canning Machinery and Suppliers, National Food Brokers' Association, and a number of other associations representing bakers, pickle packers, macaroni manufacturers, sugar brokers, and wholesale and retail grocers.

Canning machinery exhibits were shown by 115 different firms and were more colorful and educational than usual.

Business resulting from the convention was reported good, and large orders were placed.

The agenda of the conference was comprehensive and versatile, and included canning and packing methods, international markets, marketing channels and merchandising methods, economic research, food regulations, legislation, technical canning problems, cannery waste disposal, and canning crops production.

CANNING UNDER WAR CONDITIONS.

Price Fixing Commended.

Canadian Views.

IN VIEW of the action of the British Government in preventing the importation of canned vegetables, except under license, and the embargo by Australia and New Zealand upon the importation of Canadian canned foods, Canada is considering requesting these countries to relax restrictions.

In discussing these problems, Mr. Bryce Hislop, President of the Canned Foods' Association of Ontario, is reported in "Canadian Food Packer" to have stated that growers and cannerys must remember that merchants in overseas countries are also facing special war conditions and Canadians must cultivate the home market and try to compete successfully against American packing interests and make up for the loss of Australian and other markets.

He pointed out that Canadian packers act for their own interests rather than for the industry at large, and urged co-operation by all Growers' Associations. He further urged price fixing that would give a reasonable return to growers without making prices to consumers so high that consumption would be affected.

Fruit Juices

Effect Upon Body Functions.

In a reference to a booklet upon fruit juices in our December issue, we quoted Lawson's Fruit Exchange Pty. Ltd. This name should have been Lawford's Fruit Exchange Pty. Ltd., of Doncaster, Vic. We regret the error made.

In notifying the mistake, Mr. E. I. Lawford adds that the special properties contained in fruit are definitely helpful to the proper functioning of the human body.

The agreeable acid flavor in Apples is due to malic acid, which is an antiseptic. It is valuable for gastric and intestinal catarrh troubles and general malnutrition. Apple juice is wholesome and can with safety be taken in large quantities. One hour before meals and at bedtime are the best times for drinking the juice. It acts as a laxative and also prevents acidosis.

Pear juice is sweeter than Apple juice and contains less acid. It, too, is a valuable remedy in cases of gastric and intestinal catarrh. It can be taken half an hour before a meal and at bedtime.

Pineapple juice counteracts the tendency to an excess accumulation of acids in the body following excessive meat and cereal consumption; stimulates the flow of saliva and the digestive glands; rich in Vitamin C.

Grape juice contains tartaric acid. It alkalises the tissue fluids. It contains more fruit sugar than most other fruits, and reduces fever. Even diluted, Grape juice is a protective drink.

CANNED APRICOTS.

Record Production in 1940.

A total of 397,136 cases of Apricots was processed during the 1940 canning season, according to a report received from the Australian Canned Fruits Board. These represent the equivalent of 2 dozen 30 oz. tins.

Export Pack:

Choice 12,024 cases
Standard 200,543 "
Seconds 82,441 "

Domestic Pack:

Standard 102,128 "
These figures represent the largest pack ever reported, the comparison with other years being: — 1929, 237,480; 1930, 277,274; 1931, 91,538; 1932, 182,071; 1933, 223,619; 1934, 229,316; 1935, 274,360; 1936, 379,435; 1937, 127,189; 1938, 380,082; 1939, 282,422, and 1940, 397,136.

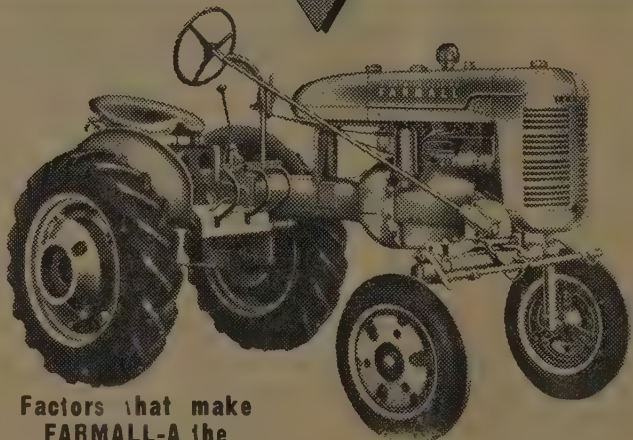
To buy the constituents of a quart of milk, if they were purchased separately, would cost about £8/17/6, according to a recent computation.

MANURE POULTRY

For Sale, Dried, Well Bagged.
Apply — Manager, Pleasant Hill, Kyneton. Phone Kyneton 287.

M'CORMICK-DEERING FARMALL 'A'

THE NEW SMALL TRACTOR FOR SMART ALL-ROUND SERVICE



Factors that make FARMALL-A the fruit grower's best buy

1. Four-speed transmission — 2 1/4 to 10 miles per hour — variable governor controls speeds to within "inches per hour."
2. Valve-in-head 4-cylinder engine with Tocco-hardened crankshaft.
3. Replaceable cylinders.
4. High-grade ball bearings at 29 points. Fifteen spring-loaded dust and oil seals.
5. Adjustable wheel tread — 40 to 68 inches.
6. Available with the most complete line of direct-connected machines.

Special equipment is available to meet every requirement.

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The smallest and latest recruit to the famous Farmall tractor family, FARMALL-A, with Clear Vision, is destined to be a good friend to the fruit-grower.

Write to us for details of this wonderful, small, all-round, triple power tractor, or ask your local McCormick-Deering agent to give you a straight talk on it.



M'CORMICK-DEERING FARMALL A

THE NEW TRACTOR WITH CLEAR VISION

THE CITRUS INDUSTRY

CITRUS JUICE AND HEALTH.

Valuable Results From Dietetic Research.

ONE phase of his business on which the average citrus grower knows but little is the work being done on dietetic research. But it is in this line of investigation that the future of the industry largely depends. There is a growing acceptance by the medical profession of the importance of citrus juices in the prevention and cure of disease. Naturally, such knowledge proceeds slowly, but it is gaining momentum. Much more must be done.

During the World War it was noted that soldiers who convalesced in the south of France where they were given citrus fruits and vegetables were discharged from hospitals quicker than those in other parts of France. A Chicago surgeon noticed that the incisions of appendicitis patients healed more rapidly when the patients were put on an Orange juice diet before the operation.

Experiments by Dr. L. E. Detrick at the University of California at Los Angeles, working under a fellowship granted by the California Fruit Growers Exchange, suggests the same thing—that Vitamin C plays a major part in wound healing.

There is considerable significance in this under war-time conditions, but there is a much greater potential in the peace-time problems of healing the sick and afflicted.

A. J. Lorenz, director of nutritional research for the California Fruit Growers Exchange, presents some interesting conjectures as to how more might be done along this line. He points out that active tubercular people have a much higher Vitamin C requirement than normal persons. The absolute minimum daily requirements of Vitamin C for normal adults is 30 milligrams a day, but they should have 100 milligrams a day for certainty—the equivalent of eight ounces of Orange or Lemon juice.—("Citrograph," U.S.A.)

ADVERTISING SELLS CITRUS.

Canadian Campaign.

The Sunkist selling organization of California, in an endeavour to meet restricted export trade, made an advance in Canada during February and March, when a large newspaper advertising campaign was run in 18 newspapers, including French papers in Montreal and Quebec. Captions were used such as "Lemons Bring Out the Flavor," and "Best for Juice and Every Use."

MARKETING CITRUS FRUITS.

Importance of Meeting the Public Demand for High Quality Fruit.

Top Working Inferior Varieties.

THE projected campaign for advertising Apples caused some concern to citrus growers. [This was prior to the disastrous heat wave when so much of the 1940 Apple crop was destroyed.]

In discussing this matter recently, Mr. A. W. Schwenessen, General Manager of the Victorian Central Citrus Association, rightly points out that three main essentials for successful marketing are:—

- (1) Guarantee of quality;
- (2) Continuity of supplies at reasonable prices; and
- (3) Well-planned advertising.

Without either or all of the above the public interest in citrus fruits will not be maintained. Definite service is therefore essential and this extends right from the orchard, through distribution channels to the consumer.

One factor that growers should consider, he states, is greater attention to top-working off-type trees such as most of Thompson Navel Oranges, and by packers tightening up their grades. Poor quality fruit does harm to the whole industry as the ultimate consumer naturally goes cold on citrus if the quality he receives is poor. If there is any doubt in the mind of the packer as to quality, the consumer should be given the benefit.

SEEKING NEW MARKETS FOR CITRUS.

German Trade Lost to Mediterranean Countries.

Rapid Increase in Egyptian Citrus Production.

FOLLOWING war conditions closing Germany as a market, Egyptian orchardists are exploiting the British market for a new outlet. In 1939 Germany took about 85 per cent. of Egypt's citrus export. Growers are also attempting to gain a footing on the Sudan market, which, however, is limited. It is anticipated that the bulk of Britain's citrus supplies will come from Spain and Palestine so long as shipping is maintained.

Citrus production in Egypt is stated to be increasing at a remarkable rate, aided by improved irrigation and scientific farming.

Citrus fruits represented 90 per cent. of all Palestine exports before the war made shipping a problem. Her average export represents about 15 million cases per year.

SPANISH ORANGE EXPORTS REDUCED.

Post-War Problems.

FOLLOWING the disturbance in fruit production and export during the late Spanish War, the country was slowly getting back to normal when the present European war broke out. Valencia had continued to export in spite of intensive warfare and began, immediately after the armistice, to recover her diminished citrus export trade with other countries.

Ordinarily Great Britain took the major proportion of Valencia's citrus exports, followed by France, Netherlands, Scandinavia and Belgium, but with the new war conditions Britain has not stated what proportion of her normal supplies she will take from Spain.

Similarly, the freight space problem reacts upon other European countries and Spanish shippers are at a loss to estimate what their export trade will now approximate. To retain the Scandinavian trade, Spain will have to accept barter conditions in the form of codfish and wood-pulp.

So instead of 10 million boxes that Spain could export, it would appear that she will be lucky to place 5 million boxes this season. The Spanish Government is fixing the price to growers, in an effort to maintain the industry and to control exports, but the difficulties brought on by the present war make the future of the industry somewhat problematical.

INCREASED CITRUS PRODUCTION.

Bettering the Average Yield.

A report by the Fruit Statistician in California shows how that State has increased production in late years. In 1909 the crop of Valencia Oranges was recorded as 1,847,000 cases, whereas in 1937 a total of 29,234,000 cases was produced. Even as late as 1917 only 3,480,000 cases of Oranges were harvested, whilst in 1928 a 20,047,000 crop was reported. Lemons also have similarly increased in the past 10 years.

But not only have more trees been brought into bearing, but the production per acre has been greatly increased following more efficient methods of cultivation and better varieties having been planted.

A NEW FRUIT CHOCOLATE.

A new process is announced from California by which Orange slices, prepared in a syrup of Orange honey and Lemon juice. The slices are then dipped in chocolate and are proving a popular addition to the already long list of modern confections.

ORDERLY MARKETING.

Citrus Growers Acknowledgment.

If some suggestions made by Arizona citrus growers are as practicable as they sound they should contain food for thought by Australian growers as tending to meet conditions that will assist in the orderly marketing of all classes of fruit. Grapefruit is especially mentioned in the conclusions arrived at by the special committee appointed from Arizona business men to thoroughly investigate the citrus industry.

The standardisation of packages, elimination of culled fruit and control of shipping on consignment were amongst the problems faced.

It was stated that the problems were the same as those facing growers of all surplus primary crops.

Production has passed consumption, with the result that prices have declined until production has become unprofitable. Disorganised marketing has aggravated the position and consumers' education is recommended.

Standardised packaging and grading is needed and all inferior fruit must be eliminated from the market and used only for fruit juices or canning. Consignment shipments will be disallowed before a definite market has been formed for it. Approved labelling will protect and guide the buyer as to quality and count.

CARE OF CITRUS TREES.

Pruning Points.

THE Florida Citrus Commission, in a bulletin issued recently, advises on care of citrus trees following a severe frost condition.

It is not desirable, the bulletin states, to prune cold damaged trees until after the Spring growth has matured. It is impossible to determine at this time the extent to which the trees have been injured, and any attempt to prune immediately is likely to result in either over-severe pruning with consequent loss of live wood, or, more likely, under-pruning, which will necessitate re-pruning later at additional expense.

After a Spring growth has come the line of demarcation between dead and live wood will be established, and cuts can be made into the live wood and proper wound dressing used. If the pruning is carefully done, one pruning will take care of the situation.

With reference to cultivation and manuring, the bulletin recommends that these be delayed "until danger of frost is over in the locality where the grove is located or until there are indications that the trees are about to start new growth."

Citrus Without Irrigation

Success at Warby's Range Near Wangaratta, (Vic.)

Wangaratta, Victoria, is gradually extending its radius as a fruit producing centre and the foothills of Warby's Range are becoming dotted with chains of orchards. With undulating country and ideal conditions, one can safely forecast a good citrus future for the district. Not that citrus-growing is new to the district; on the contrary, it is an old-established industry, probably the oldest in Victoria.

In 1865 the late Mr. James Brien planted the first orchard with 1,000 Parramatta seedlings. Encouraged by success with this initial planting, he added other Orange varieties and Lemons until he had 28 acres under bearing. Excellent results are still being had from many of the original trees.

A son, Mr. John Brien, later planted 40 acres adjoining his father's property, and had equal success. It is quoted that in 1913 the two orchards produced 23,000 cases of fruit, which gave a net return of over £7,000.

From this pioneering of citrus culture in the district has grown a flourishing industry. Now the principal varieties seen include Washington Navels, Valencia Late; Marsh Seedless Grapefruit and Lisbon and Eureka Lemons. Owing to co-operative effort by orchardists, red scale is now a minor problem in the district.

Among the present growers may be quoted Mr. J. Cotton, of Kelwher Grove, Mr. L. Cox, of Florida Grove, Mr. L. H. Colson and Mr. Theo Colson, Mr. L. Taylor, Messrs. Larkings and Wilcox, Mr. J. Lindner, Mr. C. Keat, and Mr. A. H. Smith. Nearby orchardists include Mark Ferris of Boweya, V. Linzzi (Ovens River), B. Scott (Glenrowan), Barley Bros. of Taminick, also Booth Bros. Swan and Sons of Londrigan are growing mixed fruits, including Apples, Cherries, Peaches, Apricots and Grapes, in addition to Nectarines, so that the claim of Wangaratta as a growing fruit centre is being well established.

ROOTSTOCK FOR CITRUS.

Sweet Orange Claimed Best.

Whilst there are seven possible rootstocks upon which citrus may be grown, there are three or four which are used commercially at present. These are sweet Orange, rough Lemon and sour Orange (pomelo). The latter has been found reliable in Australia on the heavier soils.

Sweet Orange stock has been used extensively in early citrus plantations in South Australia,

states the Dept. of Agriculture, and has proved tolerant to many soils and conditions, being of vigorous growth and producing fruit of good quality and textures, and of high acidity.

Rough Lemon stock is being extensively used in recent years. It is more suitable on well-drained soils, is vigorous, but is subject to gumming and collar-rot in wet soils. It fruits and matures earlier than sweet Orange, but lacks acidity as the season advances. Under irrigation, therefore, sweet Orange is found to be the best root stock.

DROUGHT IN N.S.W.

Citrus Trees Denuded.

The extremely dry conditions reported in N.S.W. this Summer have taken a heavy toll on fruit in the nearby hills close to Sydney. Pictures appearing in the Sydney daily papers give a graphic report of some of the conditions seen. One depicts the dry bed of a dam near Dural, in which huge cracks appear in the surface of the dam bed, whilst another picture shows citrus trees bared of leaves, and exposing the fruit to the merciless rays of the sun.

At report, orchardists were anxiously awaiting long-delayed rains expected from the north, failing the early arrival of which still further losses were anticipated.

CITRUS AND DROUGHT.

Irrigation Areas Not Affected.

Estimated Crop of 2½ Million Bushels in N.S.W.

At date of report (March 14) it was stated that citrus crops in the N.S.W. Coastal areas had suffered severely from the hot dry conditions that have prevailed, but that conditions in the irrigation areas were excellent. Much shedding of the fruit was reported in some districts, and unless drought conditions improve a light crop will be harvested. Substantial rains would greatly benefit the dry areas. The present forecast, as made by Mr. A. A. Watson, Director of Marketing, suggests that the crop of 2,528,000 bushels would be harvested.

At the date of report, however, there were indications of rain moving from the north, and the Valencia crop may be saved. The present indications suggest a crop of one million bushels.

FIRE DAMAGE.

Orchardists' Suffer.

The final effort of a previously mild Summer was a heat wave that swept the Australian mainland during March, breaking many temperature records for that month. Bush fires were reported as having done much damage in many districts, and many orchardists suffered accordingly. Grass fires spreading through orchards accounted for much of the damage incurred. Amongst specific fires recorded was that of James Railton's nursery, at Preston, Vic., where hundreds of pot plants were lost, and the damage was estimated about £1,500. Insurance covered the actual loss, but Mr. Railton stated that it would take about two years to replace the plants destroyed.

A serious fire was reported by the Selbest Fruit Packing House at Griffith, N.S.W., on March 3. In this case the whole plant was gutted in spite of efforts of the local fire brigade. In addition to large quantities of fruit destroyed, a large quantity of fruit cases and shooks, machinery and furniture was destroyed. The company immediately secured temporary premises at 27 Jambil-street and "business as usual" was announced. It is unfortunate that this was the fifth fire in the Murrumbidgee irrigation areas within the past eighteen months.

A further report from Griffith advised that several fires had broken out along the irrigation canals, damaging fences, and it is believed that some of these were wilfully caused. A bucket brigade put the fires out with water drawn from the canal.

MINISTER REFUSES INCREASED PRICE.

Wine Grape Growers Disturbed.

Although wine makers had offered growers an advance of 5/- per ton over the price paid last year, the Minister for Customs cancelled the arrangement, stated the President of the Wine Grapes Marketing Board (Mr. J. C. Thorne), recently. The Government's action in fixing the home consumption price at the same level as for export, was adversely criticised by growers.

After the Board had accepted the offer of the increase made by the wine makers, the increase was over-ridden by a subsequent pronouncement by the Minister, stated Mr. Thorne.

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Apple & Pear Acquisition

Greatly Reduced Crops ∴ Co-Operation and Goodwill Needed.

THE APPLE AND PEAR Acquisition plan is being conducted along the lines originally drafted. There have been, and still are, difficulties to face in the war-time organising of a business of this magnitude dealing with a perishable commodity produced in every State of the Commonwealth.

The Acquisition plan was drawn up on the basis of a moderately heavy crop of Apples throughout Australia, and further, that the crop would be of high quality.

No one was to foresee that there would be dry, unseasonable weather, with late Autumn heat waves, which would reduce the crop by several million bushels.

The change in the situation has been dramatic and disastrous. Both quality and quantity have suffered greatly.

After allowing for approximately two million cases for export, the balance for Australian consumption may be in the region of five million to six million bushels.

The Minister for Commerce (Mr. Cameron) summed up the position early in April, when he stated that he had received deputations from various quarters and made numerous enquiries, but nothing better than the original plan had been propounded.

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In some quarters there has been an absence of goodwill—so much so that the incident of some Victorian growers pelting policemen with Apples and Pears in the Victoria Market has now passed into history.

There were two schools of thought: (1) that of fighting the Acquisition scheme and endeavoring to do away with the Board, and (2) the other recognised the difficulties inherent in the present system, but were willing to co-operate, thus to assist in bringing about improvements—recognising the possibility of the continuance of the war.

The vast majority of growers in the Melbourne metropolitan area are abiding by the law.

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Thoughtful growers state that the need for improvements in the marketing of Apples and Pears has long been recognised, and that the present scheme provides the opportunity for the inauguration of orderly marketing—for the benefit of the growers.

It will be remembered that at meetings of Melbourne metropolitan growers the principal slogan appeared to be: "Away with the Board." Others taking a longer view, urged that every effort be made to secure

from the Government the cost of production.

Here a matter of vital principle is involved. Many capable far-seeing growers who support orderly marketing and who are loyally supporting the Board's Acquisition plans are nevertheless insistent that the Government would have been infinitely wiser to have guaranteed cost of production to the growers. Even now among the co-operating growers, it is freely stated that the Government would do well to announce that, failing a dividend from the pool, a grant will be given to make up the cost of production.

The attitude apparently adopted by the Government was that the initial advances, namely 2/- per case for Apples and 3/- per case for Pears (naked fruit), was in the nature of an advance only, the belief apparently being firmly held that organised marketing would return the needed dividend from the pool to make this season a satisfactory one to the growers.

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The spirit of goodwill and co-operation is still needed. It is interesting in this connection to see how these matters are viewed in Tasmania. The following letter was published in the Tasmanian press early in March:—

PLEA FOR CO-OPERATION. Fruitgrowers and the Control Board.

Sir,—I read with interest and approval the editorial in the "Mercury" dealing with the attitude of Apple growers towards matters of the greatest importance to themselves. At the meeting at Huonville on Sunday, which ended so inconclusively, I believe that a considerable majority of those present realised that it is necessary to keep the Apple and Pear Control Board in operation, but they would not speak in defence of the Board, and on a show of hands not more than 10 per cent. voted "yes" or "no" when asked to show their confidence in the scheme.

It is regrettable that many critics who should be aware of the facts still assert that the Board is acquiring the crop for 2/- a bushel. This is wrong. It is an advance of 2/- a bushel on 75 per cent. of the commercial crop, and there is a good prospect, thanks to the existence of the Board, of a considerable sum in addition being distributed.

What is wanted is not destructive criticism, but co-operation in carrying out the arrangements made by the Board set up to control the industry in the crisis occasioned by the shortage of ship-

ping, and which is far more necessary for us in Tasmania than in the other States. Federal control is essential therefore we cannot expect that the whole of the arrangements can be made to suit our ideas of what is fair and reasonable or otherwise.

The growers of Victoria and New South Wales are emphatic in what they think is most unfair to them in that the Board has stopped them taking their Apples and Pears into the city markets and selling them themselves in small lots. Their attitude is understandable. They think that they are making all the sacrifice for the benefit of the Tasmanians. The N.S.W. growers of high-grade fruit whose Apples usually realise several shillings a case more than the best Tasmanians, also have a grievance, but they forget that without control their markets would be swamped by the Tasmanian surplus, and their fruit, as well as ours, would be sold at ruinous prices.

We, then, are not the only people who are inconvenienced by a Board that has to consider every aspect of the trade. That Board must be as fair as possible to all. This necessity may to a great extent have caused the delay in coming to early decisions.

It is of the utmost importance that a sincere attempt be made to make the scheme a success; otherwise the Federal Government may become disgusted with the endless complaints and refuse to continue the arrangements after the end of this year. So let us all do our best to make it run smoothly and assist the Board even if we do not fully agree with everything it does. Members of the Board have a much better opportunity of knowing what the difficulties are and how best to surmount them.

Huonville. E. LINNELL.

SUPPORT FOR THE ACQUISITION SCHEME.

Unanimous Vote of Confidence by Tamar Growers.

A motion declaring the principle of the Commonwealth Apple and Pear Acquisition scheme to be the only method of carrying the fruitgrowing industry over the period of dislocation caused by the war, and promising support for the chairman (Mr. L. S. Taylor) and members of the Tasmanian Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee, was unanimously agreed to at a largely attended meeting of the Tamar Farmers' and Fruitgrowers' Association at Exeter early in March. The President (Mr. V. Lyne) presided.

Mr. N. Campbell, M.H.A., suggested growers should be pleased that already two ships had been made available to export fruit. He asked growers to consider what would be their chance of marketing the crop if a scheme had not been evolved.

The Warden of Beaconsfield (Mr. H. A. Court) said growers should be thankful the scheme had been introduced. Growers should avoid raising obstacles.

Mr. E. L. Reed said he resented the criticism of the Acquisition Committee, and of its chairman.

Mr. Taylor attended after the passing of the motion, and answered questions. To Mr. Campbell, he said pine cases must be used for overseas shipments.

To Mr. F. E. Coles, he said reject Apples would be used by canners and must be handled by the local agents. Pears which were ready for shipment must be packed and delivered to cool store.

Appeal Board Sought.

Setting up of a Board to hear appeals concerning fruit rejected by inspectors when presented for export was discussed at a special meeting of the State Fruit Board at Hobart on Thursday. Mr. L. S. Taylor, chairman of the Tasmanian Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee, said the Committee would deal with the matter at its next meeting.

N.S.W. GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWS.

A TOTALLY UNEXPECTED development was the withdrawal of the N.S.W. Government from the Acquisition scheme. The Chief Secretary (Hon. A. U. Tonking, M.L.A.), who represents the Orange district, stated that the scheme operated unfairly against N.S.W. growers. The N.S.W. Government would withdraw from the scheme. If the Board or the Federal Government had any alternative, the N.S.W. Government would be pleased to consider it. If the Federal Government wanted to implement its Apple and Pear Acquisition scheme in N.S.W., it must set up its own organisation for doing so. Growers were in open revolt.

Continuing, Mr. Tonking said there was passive resistance to the scheme at present.

An endeavour to reconcile the situation is being made between the Federal Government and the N.S.W. Government, so far without success.

It is stated from N.S.W. that the Government would favorably consider an alternative plan, but the trouble appears to be that despite earnest consideration by capable men, no better plan is forthcoming.

N.S.W. holds the key position with regard to marketing, that State being the most populous, and Sydney being the principal market for Tasmanian Apples. Some growers object to the present plans, but have the

growers in N.S.W. arrived at a unanimous decision regarding a better one?

All the foregoing is of importance, bearing in mind the need for planning for next season's operations.

Press Correspondence.

Observing that correspondence in the press in the several States the Board and its State Acquisition Committees have been subjected to criticism for certain administrative acts relative to cases, selection of agents, methods of deliveries and the like.

On the other hand there have been published many appreciative letters, acknowledging the difficulties of the Board and its Committees in handling an intricate business, but urging toleration and co-operation.

In Victoria for instance, there has been a fairly considerable amount of "bootlegging." Some growers have failed to register, and it is stated that others, after having received the initial ad-

jubilantly suggested that the adverse press criticism was anything but good publicity.

Could anything be more short-sighted. He says in effect "I don't like the Board and I'll do my best to ruin the Apple publicity scheme!"

What of the future?—yes, and what of the present? Apart from any personal considerations, the industry is in existence, and it is bigger than any individual.

Every grower is concerned in the success of educational publicity.

Needless to say, any grower has the right to criticise, but it is suggested that any criticism, to be of value, should be constructive.

Advertising Proposals.

Unquestionably the complete scheme for advertising yet devised for Apples and Pears in the Commonwealth was that which was organised to assist in the marketing of the 1940 crop.

Unfortunately, owing to reduced crops, the advertising programme has been suspended for the time being. Nevertheless, it can here be stated that the plans as drafted would have provided for a complete cover of newspaper and radio publicity, together with the display of striking posters on hoardings throughout Australia, coupled with complete educational publicity through schools and women's organisations. The advertising programme was drawn up by the Department of Information, in conjunction with the Board's publicity officers, after enlisting the services of a panel of expert advertising firms. The objectives were two-fold: (a) to move the anticipated heavy crop into rapid consumption, and (b) to carry on educational publicity of permanent value.

Educational Propaganda.

Although the original plans will not now be proceeded with in their entirety, nevertheless, educational publicity is to be conducted along the lines which have proved successful in the past. Such include the running of Apple Week in several States, plus Garden Week in Victoria, and the displays at Royal Shows in the several State capitals, the distribution of Apples to schools, hospitals, kindergartens, etc. A Visual Educational film has been prepared on health lines, and this is being sent, with an accompanying instructional booklet for teachers, to every school in Australia which possesses a projector.

GAS STORAGE OF FRUIT

How Science Helps

VALUABLE RESEARCH IN ENGLAND ON APPLES, ORANGES, PEARS AND PLUMS.

THE work of the British Food Investigation Board provides a splendid illustration of how science is helping the industry by its investigations into the storage of fruit and vegetables.

The value of its activities lies in the fact that its investigations are made under practical commercial conditions, and the conclusions reached are founded on proved scientific fact—a rather important matter in a trade in which fancy is far too often allowed to run loose and to be accepted as gospel.

An example of the Board's work is afforded by its investigation into the gas storage of Cox's Orange Pippin Apples, says the "Fruit Flower and Vegetable Trades Journal" (Eng.).

There appeared to be some doubt in the trade as to whether this variety developed its full flavor after gas storage, and the matter seemed sufficiently important to warrant a full-scale demonstration. Accordingly

26 tons of C.O.P. Apples

were put into the gas store at the Ditton Laboratory at the end of September, 1937. The atmosphere was that which has been recommended as the result of the Investigation Board's work, namely, 2.5 per cent. of oxygen, 5 per cent. of carbon dioxide, and 92.5 per cent. of nitrogen, and was obtained by the removal of the excess of carbon dioxide by a scrubber of commercial design, together with controlled ventilation.

The temperature of storage was 39 degrees F.

Full Flavor Retained.

The store was opened on February 22, 1938, in the presence of some 150 fruitgrowers and other experts. The demonstration was completely successful, the fruit being in an excellent condition; in fact, 80 per cent.

of it was graded as "Fancy" or "Extra Fancy."

It can thus be confidently reaffirmed that gas storage, properly carried out, does not prevent in any way the full development of the unique flavor of the C.O.P. Apple. On the other hand, a subsequent survey of fruit of this variety, from ten representative areas, has shown that the extent to which the flavor is developed depends in the main, on pre-storage conditions, such as soil, manurial treatment and maturity at the time of gathering.

The general problem of wastage in Palestinian Oranges exported to the United Kingdom formed another subject of investigation. The bulk of the fruit is carried in unrefrigerated holds in which it was known, from earlier observations, that considerable variations in temperature may occur.

Temperature is an important factor in wastage, and the main object of the preliminary survey was to ascertain how far the occurrence of undesirable temperatures might be responsible for wastage, and to what extent these temperatures might be improved. In the course of the survey the temperature of the fruit on arrival in this country was observed in over 100 spaces in 19 ships, and in nine of the ships comparable samples of fruit were carried at selected positions in order to determine the effect of differences in temperature upon them. This illustrates the thoroughness with which the investigations are conducted.

Pear Life Lengthened.

Other investigations carried out by the Board have shown that gas storage markedly lengthens the life of home-grown Pears of the variety Doyenne du Comice.

It has also been shown to be bad practice to store late varieties of Apples with early ripe varieties.

It has been proved that immature Monarch Plums, when treated immediately after picking with an atmosphere containing acetylene, ripen faster and more uniformly and develop a more pronounced flavor than untreated fruit.

In these days the industry is far too inclined to accept as a mere matter of course the fact that highly perishable fruits and vegetables can be shipped thousands of miles and marketed in perfect condition, or stored in our own country for long periods without deteriorating in quality or flavor. Yet we owe this largely to the application of the results of scientific research such as conducted by the Food Investigation Board.

ADVANCES INCREASED BY 1/- A CASE.

The Minister for Commerce (Mr. Cameron) announced on April 4 that there would be a further advance of 1/- a bushel on Apples and Pears under the National Marketing Scheme—making the advance 3/- per bushel on Apples and 4/- on Pears (naked fruit).

Mr. Cameron said that the Government felt sure that the additional advance to be paid on delivery of fruit would serve as an inducement to growers to pick their fruit and deliver it to the Board's agents.

vance from the Board, have been marketing their fruit "under the lap" direct to retailers at good prices. Against this, growers in Harcourt and Gippsland have been particularly severe. In addition to the numerous letters published, the "Fruit World" has been supplied with copies of letters from old-established growers on substantial holdings, who stand right behind the Board in its efforts to stabilise the industry.

And in this connection it is these loyal men who hold to the view that the Board should have been supported in its earnest endeavors to secure an advance from the Government which would have covered costs of production.

On this subject of press correspondence one objecting grower referred to the projected advertising campaign, and rather

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FREE
on
Application.

London Trade Report

High Prices Quoted For Fruit.

THE FOLLOWING REPORT has been received from the Agent-General and Trade Commissioner for South Australia in London, Sir Charles McCann, states (on 23/2/40) as follows:—

An interesting feature of the market to-day is the fact that it is in sight of boxed Apples at 20/- per case. In certain instances prices have passed 18/-, and with supplies still short the market has a firm rising tendency. To the trade, who have had a very worrying time, especially in London, both as regards values and supplies, the change has had a stimulating effect and demand is good. All imported colored dessert varieties and Newtowns are affected, also Lemons and Oranges, Lemons being anything up to 27/6 per case. Spanish Oranges are quoted up to 27/6 per case and Jaffa 18/-, according to count.

The very cold spell from December to mid-February made trading very difficult owing to transport difficulties and slow demand, and in consequence supplies to the market were delayed and considerable quantities were sold at the higher prices. Had weather conditions been normal the possibilities are that supplies would have been more scarce to-day, and values may have gone higher.

Prospects for the Australian season certainly seem favorable at the moment. I cannot, however, see the present high prices being sustained for any considerable arrivals. Fruit to-day is purely a luxury trade and therefore has a restricted demand. It is a recognised fact that for a 100 per cent. demand the Apple price must be 4d. lb.; at 5d. per lb. it is considered that the demand is 25 per cent. less, but as the prices after this progresses, the demand slackens rather more slowly. The retail range of values to-day is from 6d. to 8d. per lb.

The following is a range of values for Canadian fruit:—

Delicious, 17/6 to 19/-; Wine-saps, 17/6 to 18/-; Jonathans, 18/-; Oregon Newtowns, 18/- to 18/6.

Pears: Californian Nelis are 16/- to 17/- and Beurre Bosc 14/- to 15/-. South African Bon Chretien 10/- to 13/-, and Beurre Hardy 14/- to 16/-.

There are still good quantities of English gas-stored dessert and Bramleys offering. The latter are selling very well, but the market is overloaded with barn stored Bramleys in very irregular condition which is making trade very difficult.

Oranges meet a very firm market. Spanish supplies are lighter but Jaffas are plentiful.

QUEENSLAND GRADES ALTERED.

Minimum Sizes Shown.

The Queensland Department for Agriculture has advised that the grade of standards for Apples and Pears in that State have now been altered. The following minimum sizes will now be as follow:—

2½ inch diameter: Granny Smith, Mobbs Codlin, Stewart, Prince Alfred.

2½ inch: Jonathan, King David, Kirk's Carrington, Lord Wolseley, Red Carrington, Scarlet Pearmain, Worchester Pearmain, Dougherty, Elsie Grant, Geeveston Fanny, King Pippin, Pomme de Nieve, Rokewood, Stone Pippin, Tasman's Pride.

2¼ inch: Cox Orange Pippin, Yates, Crofton.

2½ inch: All other varieties.

PRICE AFFECTS APPLE SALES.

At the New Zealand Centenary Exhibition it was discovered that the price of Apples affected sales. When the price was dropped 50 per cent. the consumption increased out of all proportion. This fact, demonstrated everywhere, must be taken into consideration in all cases where gluts occur or surplus supplies have to be got rid of.

AUSTRALIAN APPLE EXPORTS.

It is expected that between 1,750,000 and 2,000,000 cases of Apples will be sent to export markets this season. This includes exports to the United Kingdom and the Near East.

ADVERTISING LIFTS APPLE SALES.

Experiences in U.S.A.

Consumption of Apples Trebled.

TO meet glut conditions, the Washington (U.S.A.) State Apple Commission approved an intensive advertising campaign to boost Apple consumption in its larger cities and towns. Not only will large consuming communities be further exploited, but new markets will be sought.

As with Australia, the closing of export markets occasioned by war conditions will throw more fruit on to the domestic market and the campaign is planned to meet this condition. The campaign includes radio and newspaper advertising as well as large public hoardings, window cards and special exhibits.

Already good results are reported and the people are eating three times as many Apples as were normally consumed in previous years, testifying to the value of planned advertising. It is anticipated that an anxious period for growers will thus be overcome, and—best of all—the people will become Apple-conscious as long as the special publicity is continued.

AUSTRALIAN FRUIT EXPORTS.

Worth Over £7,000,000 per Annum.

IN the twelve months ending June, 1939, the total exports of fruit and fruit products from Australia represented a total, in Australian currency, of £7,398,204, according to figures released by the Commonwealth statistician.

Whilst this amount was exceeded by butter, meat, wheat and wool, it still represents a tremendous trade value in the Commonwealth, and one that is not always properly recognised. Comprising the total figure are the following individual classifications:—

Fresh Fruit (U.K. 69.2%, other British countries 15.5%), £2,022,874.

Pres. Fruits (U.K. 82.2%, other British countries 11.8%), £1,267,070.

Dried Fruits (U.K. 71.4%, Canada 19.6%, other British countries 8.6%), £2,864,676.

Jams (U.K. 79.8%, other British countries 15.1%), £262,441.

Wine (U.K. 91.4%, other British countries 15.1%), £262,441.

Wine (91.4%, other British countries 5.5%), £981,143.



Protect Australia's Home Front

Nutrition Committees, the Medical and Dental Professions, as well as dietitians, all agree that Australians are not eating sufficient fruit to maintain abundant health.

APPLES and PEARS Are Rich in Food Values

Apples and Pears are extremely rich in food values and medicinal qualities, and contain many essential vitamins.

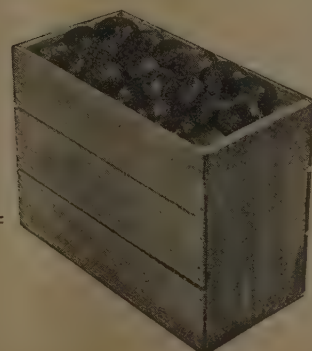
Because Britain needs all available shipping space from Australia for other goods for war purposes, Australian fruit growers are standing aside, thus losing their valuable export market.

Citizens, for the benefit of their health, and also to protect the valuable national fruit-growing industry are urged to EAT MORE APPLES AND PEARS.

Export quality Apples and Pears are available to the public at reasonable prices.

Buy Apples by the Case

Order from your local fruiterer or direct from the State Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee in every State capital.



The space for this advertisement is donated by courtesy of the Port of Southampton and Southern Railways of England.

• THE MARKET GROWER •

The Cabbage Moth

Control Methods.

THE small green caterpillar so dangerous to Cabbages can be controlled if proper steps are taken. He is named *Pentilla maculpenis* by the learned, and is about half an inch long with white markings on his back. The eggs are visible to the eye and are greenish-yellow in color, are laid both singly and in clusters, generally lying close to a vein. They hatch out after a few days from laying and the young pests then feed on the soft flesh under leaves.

They operate in several broods during the year, but are worse the latter months in a moth stage. Control is advised by

Mr. J. W. Evans, Entomologist of the Tasmanian Government, in the form of lead arsenate or derris dust or by sprays, though dusting is found to be better. If lead arsenate is used it should not be applied later than six weeks before the plants are cut, after which, if necessary, a non-poisonous insecticide should be used. Derris sprays can be used right up to cutting time.

As soon as the pests are noticed as caterpillars, treatment should be given fortnightly. Other control methods include the destruction of all old infested plants and the avoidance of planting seedlings near areas previously affected.

DEFICIENCIES IN VEGETABLES.

Some Help Wanted.

RESearch WORK is international and in spite of war conditions it is fortunate that all countries maintain this valuable service, and it is anticipated that results of experiments will be released to neutral countries even from enemy sources. Since 1928 experiments have been undertaken in Germany and much information has been made public, says "Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Trades Journal" (Eng.).

Experiments to determine the reactions of various plant food deficiencies and the optimum manuring necessary have proved certain theories to be correct.

For instance, in Cabbage and Lettuce, it was found that a deficiency of potash resulted in badly formed heads. On manured soils, if nitrogen is absent, the crop production is checked. Sand, peat and loam soils were tried and in all three deficiencies of nitrogen, sulphate and potash resulted in a definite change of color in the plants. A liberal use of humus for Lettuce was found an advantage.

CARROTS BY AIR MAIL.

As showing the use of air mail facilities, a report comes from California that a grower shipped a half-crate of Carrots, at a cost of £12/10/-, in order to support a radio campaign of advertising this vegetable. The carrots were picked, packed and shipped only 24 hours before delivery was made.

MANURING IMPROVES THE QUALITY AND FLAVOR OF VEGETABLES.

Results of Recent Tests.

THAT correct manuring improves the flavor of vegetables is claimed in a report published in England. Peas grown on sandy soil had the best flavor when given farmyard manure alone, but Peas and Beans grown in soil lacking manure and potash had a poor flavor when canned.

Celery and Carrots did not on the other hand appear to gain from applications of organic manure, or complete fertilisers, and in fact when no fertiliser was given or when farmyard manure was used alone the flavor was best. Tomatoes were best flavored when they received



"Plane" Brand Dusts

"Beauty" (Knapsack) Dusters
"Superior" (Rotary) Dusters

ARE MANUFACTURED BY

N. N. McLEAN Pty. Ltd.
395 Queen Street
MELBOURNE

farmyard manure plus a complete fertiliser. But when the Tomatoes were canned they did not taste as good as when liberal amounts of nitrogen had been given to the plants, but tasted better when plenty of potash had been applied.

Tomatoes grown on sandy soil had the best flavor when grown with a complete fertiliser, but when the same varieties were grown on clayey soils the best flavor resulted when farmyard manure was given alone.

Potato Licensing Bill

Attack By Labor Member.

New South Wales papers report that a Potato Growers' Licensing Bill has been presented in the State Legislative Assembly aiming at the compulsory licensing of all growers of more than one acre of Potatoes. Labor members attacked that passing of the Bill on March 14 during the second reading.

The Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Reid) said the object of the Bill was to benefit the producers without any undue restrictions upon production. He submitted that it would encourage growers to produce enough Potatoes to supply local demands. Prices would be fairly fixed and growers would get a reasonable and satisfactory return.

Mr. Lang (A.L.P.) questioned the necessity for the Bill and claimed that the operating costs of administration would be a burden upon growers. The debate was adjourned till early April.

TOMATOES WITHOUT SOIL.

Good Quality Reported.

That it is possible to grow Tomatoes without soil has been demonstrated by Mr. D. Morel at Castle Hill, N.S.W. Last season he grew 1,000 plants in this way and gave away about £200 worth of Tomatoes to his friends. It is in the nature of a hobby with Mr. Morel, who is finding out many new facts about the science of hydroponics. This system of growing plants in chemicalised water, without soil, was introduced commercially in California as recently as three years ago, and is already greatly used.

The **PRINCIPAL** *Fruit* **Merchants** *and Exporters* **of SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

SILBERT, SHARP & BISHOP LTD.

FRUIT MERCHANTS — EXPORTERS — COMMISSION SALESMEN
BANANA IMPORTERS AND RIPENERS

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All Gardeners' Requirements.
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Seedsmen & Potato Merchants.

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FRESH FRUIT SPECIALIST

Interstate Representative, Exporter
& Commission Agent

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Phone: C 2882. After Hours, L 5395.
Telegrams: "Caldicotts," Adelaide. Reg.

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H. C. Austin

Wholesale Fruit and Produce Merchant, General
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Specialty Overseas Export All Countries.

New Market, Union St., Adelaide

Phone C 740. G.P.O. Box 722. Telegrams: Austin Fruit.

Producers' Co-operative Distributing Society Ltd.

Are now paying a Bonus
of 15% on all Commissions
charged to regular
clients of the Fruit &
Vegetable Section for
year ending Sept., 1938

Send Your Consignments

TO US

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.

APPLES IN NEW ZEALAND.

Controlled Marketing and Advertising.

NEW ZEALAND has an abundant harvest of Apples this season, and because of lack of export facilities a control plan is operating and a big advertising campaign is in progress.

The Director of Internal Marketing, Mr. F. Picot, announced in mid-March that special arrangements had been made for the public to obtain supplies of dessert and cooking Apples in case lots at reasonable prices. Apples would be available at the following prices, which includes delivery to the home: Dessert, 5/6 case of 40 lb.; 3/- case of 20 lb.; cooking, 4/6 case of 40 lb.; 2/6 case of 20 lb.

"The Apples," Mr. Picot said, "are of commercial grade. For extra special grade a small premium over and above these prices will be charged.

"Supplies can be obtained from fruiterers in the main towns throughout the Dominion at the above prices, and now that perfect Apples are coming on the market, the public is urged to make them one of the general articles of diet.

"A large quantity of Apples has become available as a result of the war, making it impossible to export fruit from this country. Therefore the public has an opportunity of obtaining cheap fruit of excellent quality and at the same time of helping the country at this time of national emergency."

DISPOSAL OF AMERICAN APPLE CROP.

Diversion-purchase Scheme Adopted.

FACED WITH A PROBLEM similar to the one confronting Australian growers, American orchardists are to have their Apple crops disposed of by the diversion-purchase scheme. This scheme provided for diverting sub-standard fruit from the market.

Growers in every district suffering from pressure of surplus supplies were asked to get rid of the poor, but marketable, Apples, the off varieties, the unattractive grades which clog the market, and not let them compete with the better part of the crop. These would be processed into cider, vinegar or Apple juice, or fed to pigs, whichever was most practical, so that the desirable grades and varieties would have a clearer road to market.

"Under the scheme, the Federal Government agreed to confine its relief purchases of surplus Apples to the associations adopting it on the basis that the Government would purchase one bushel of the higher grades of fruit for relief distribution for each bushel of sub-standard Apples diverted by the grower.

APPLE CAMPAIGN IN N.S.W.

Sydney Show Publicity.

At the Sydney Royal Easter Show, which closed on March 27, the Apple and Pear Board occupied space in the big Manufacturers' Hall behind the Members' Stand.

Baskets of the various types of fruit were displayed, and the public was exhorted to buy Apples and Pears in case and half-case lots.

A young lady attendant was kept busy throughout the Show distributing literature, which included a four-page pamphlet headed "Apples for Health," and embodying an article reprinted from the "Fruit World."

The levy on dried fruits exported has been reduced to 3d. per cwt. for Currants and 4½d. per cwt. for Sultanas and Lexias. This levy is used for administrative expenses and for overseas advertising of Australian dried fruit.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

H. Norman Wicks, Balhannah Nurseries, Balhannah, S.A.: Descriptive catalogue and price-list of fruit trees, miscellaneous fruits, vines, ornamental trees, Almonds, Walnuts, etc. A special section is included containing information re planting, spraying, pollination, etc.

C. Langbecker, Bundaberg, Queensland: Catalogue of Roses, Citrus fruits, Palms, Grape Vines, ornamentals, small fruits, etc., illustrated throughout. Some of the fruits listed include Oranges, Cumquats, Avocados, Apples, Custard Apples, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Mangoes, etc.

C. A. Nobelius and Sons Pty. Ltd., Gembrook Nurseries, Emerald, Vic.: Catalogue of fruit trees, ornamental trees, shrubs and conifers. Comprehensive lists of varieties of fruit trees are listed, including Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Prunes, Japanese Plums, Quinces, Chestnuts, Figs, Filberts, Mulberries,

Oranges, Cherries, Strawberries, Walnuts, Almonds, and many others.

L. P. Rosen and Son, Carlingford, N.S.W.: Catalogue of fruit trees, Rose plants, ornamental trees, breakwinds and shelter trees, etc. Fruit trees listed include Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Persimmons, Loquats, Mulberries, Quinces, Olives, etc. Nut trees, Grape Vines and berry bushes are also listed.

ENGLISH APPLE CROP DOWN.

Upon his return from England in February, Mr. Chas. Higgs, a New Zealand grower, reported in a letter just received that it was estimated that the English Apple crop will be very light this year. Although the crop last year was heavy, the Apples were very small. It was reported to him that there was a heavy storage of Bramleys, which should hold well till, say, July and August, if necessary.



Licensed Farm Produce Agent

F. CHILTON

ESTABLISHED 1894

Fruit Commission Agent

SHIPPING NO. 56.

HIGHEST MARKET PRICES

PROMPT RETURNS

RELIABLE ADVICE.

Registered Address for Telegrams and Cables: "CHILTONS."

References:—Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, Sydney, and Growers throughout Australia.

10 CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY.

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N. & A. Fruit and Produce Pty. Ltd.

Licensed Farm Produce Agents. (No. 2253)

HEAD OFFICE:

2 STEEL STREET, NEWCASTLE.

References: Bank of New South Wales. Shipping Numbers on Application.

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Phone: MA 2612.

Private: KB 2875.

Selected Agent for:—
Tasmanian Fruit Board.
Tamar Coy., Tatana, Launceston.
Goulburn Valley Fruit Growers' Association.
Westralian Tomato Growers' Association.
Southern Queensland Tomato Growers' Association.
North Coast Tomato Growers' Association.

References:

Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket, Sydney.

GROWERS!—Consign your Fruit to—

JAMES SLATER PTY. LTD.

21 CITY MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Postal Address: Box 36, Haymarket P.O., Sydney. Established 1882.

SHIPPING NO. 19.

88 VIC. & TAS.

Stencils, Advice Notes, etc., on Application.

FRUITGROWERS!

For Satisfactory Results, Send Your Fruit to

F. H. G. ROGERS

Fruit Selling Expert,

MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Shipping No. 83.

Established 1900.

SERVICE WITH SECURITY

HOPKINS & LIPSCOMBE

Proprietor: STANLEY H. FOGSON.

LICENSED FARM PRODUCE AGENT

MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

SHIPPING NOS.—58 Vic. and Tas., 68 Q'land.

Telegraphic Address: "Hoplip," Sydney.

Bankers: Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, SYDNEY.

Telephone MA 3846.

Established 1900.

W. MUSGROVE & SON

Licensed Farm Produce Agents.

8 City Fruit Markets, Sydney.

Our Motto—Quick Sales and Prompt Settlements.

Forwarding Numbers:

Tasmania, Victoria, S. Australia, No. 53.

Queensland, Northern Rivers, No. 18.

AUSTRALIAN PEARS IN LONDON.

Arrive in Excellent Condition.

A brief report from London on March 29 states that fresh Pears arrived during the previous week and opened up in

excellent condition. It is anticipated that about half the normal quantity will be received in spite of the handicap of war conditions. The report added that it is understood that the British Government is negotiating with Australia for the purchase of extra quantities of canned fruits.

The Federal Government has voted £500,000 towards the cost of transferring wheat growers from marginal lands of N.S.W., Victoria, S.A. and W.A.

A Washington (U.S.A.) grower recently harvested 200 tons of green peas from 10 acres.

SHIPPING COMPANY LIABLE.

"Jervis Bay" Shipment.

OF considerable interest to fruit shippers is the report of a law case in England in which judgment was given in favor of the Northern Fruit Brokers Ltd., of Hull, against the Aberdeen and Commonwealth Line Ltd.

The case arose out of damage in transit of Tasmanian Apples which were reported damaged upon delivery from the ship. The Court ruled that the Apples had been properly inspected before the shipment and accepted by the ship as in good carrying condition. If the ship owners were not satisfied they could have refused the acceptance of the Apples for shipment; upon arrival at Hull, however, the Apples were found to have been affected by a higher concentration of carbon-dioxide than the ship owners were supposed to provide, and brown-heart had set in.

The shipment concerned 15,000 cases shipped on the "Jervis Bay" in July, 1936.

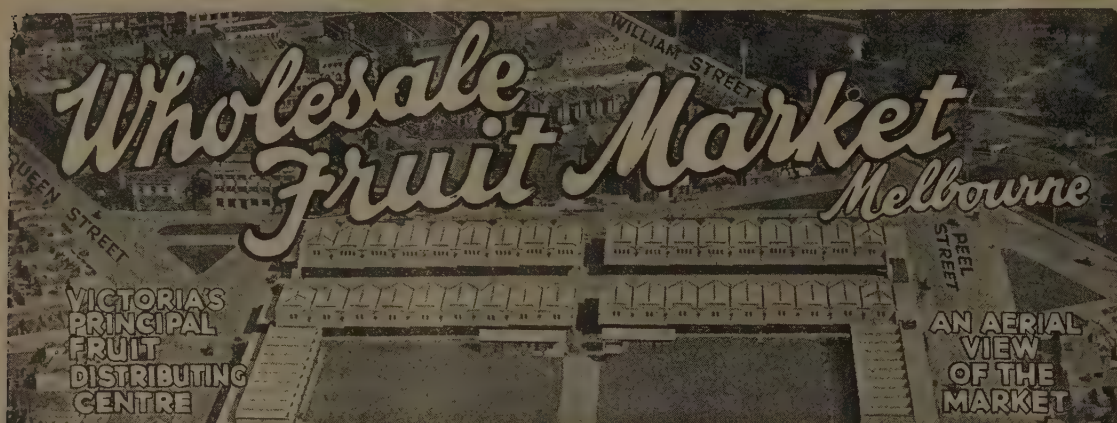
NEW GENERAL CATALOGUE OF SUNSHINE AND MASSEY HARRIS FARM MACHINERY.

We have received from H. V. McKay Massey Harris Pty. Ltd., of Sunshine, Victoria, an advance copy of their latest 98-page catalogue, describing and illustrating the entire line of Sunshine and Massey Harris farm machinery.

This fine publication is actually a manual which will prove useful to all fruitgrowers, farmers, graziers, dairymen and planters, for not only does it illustrate and describe the features of the various implements and machines, but sets out the kind of work and the condition that each one is adapted for. Many entirely new implements are shown, and all the latest improvements to those lines for which Sunshine is famous are detailed.

A perusal of the pages discloses a range of up-to-date power farming machinery, remarkable in its extent and efficiency, while the farmer who uses teams is amply catered for. In addition to the machinery for grain-farming our attention is drawn to the comprehensive range of pasture renovating and top-dressing equipment, tractors, milking machines, separators, etc., and to the complete line of implements for fruit-growers, planters and small farmers.

A copy will be gladly posted, free and post free, to any address upon application to H. V. McKay Massey Harris Pty. Ltd., Sunshine Harvester Works, Sunshine, W.20, Victoria.



Cable Address: DAVIS, MELBOURNE. Code: "ABC," 4th and 5th Editions. Box, G.P.O. 148B.

J. DAVIS PTY. LTD., Fruit Merchants

8 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET

Consignments solicited. One Trial Invited. Best Prices obtained. Prompt Advice and Payment. Telephone, F 3232. Bankers: The National Bank of Australasia, 271 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Telegraphic Address: "Listeria," Melbourne. Telephone: F 6341. Private: Win. 4535.

Codes: Bentley's A.B.C 5th Edition. IMPORTANT TO GROWERS Box 555D, Melbourne.

Australia looks to you to produce and sell good fruit, but to PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT and have it badly sold is a reflection on your business ability. To sell well is as important as to produce well. The greatest combination that can exist beneficially is that between a painstaking fruitgrower and a painstaking salesman. If you have good fruit to market, you will find in the firm of GEORGE LISTER PTY. LTD. the service you require. Established over 50 Years.

GEO. LISTER PTY. LTD. 12 Wholesale Fruit Market, Franklin Street, Melbourne. (Managing Director: J. R. VAIL) Bankers: The Commercial Banking Coy. of Sydney Ltd. (Melbourne Branch).

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A. MILLIS & SONS 34 Wholesale Fruit Market EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS Specialty—Prompt Returns. Cheques every Wednesday. Phone: F 1862

J. W. ROSS 13 Wholesale Fruit Market WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANT Prompt Returns and Sales Notes Daily Tel., F 2426.

G. WOOLF 29-30 Wholesale Fruit Market WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANT & COMMISSION AGENT Telephone: F 5550.

BELL, BANSON Pty. Ltd. Wholesale Fruit Merchants, 20 Wholesale Fruit Market, Melb. CONSIGNMENTS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SOLICITED. Tel: F1023; Private: JW2528. Bankers: E.S. & A. Bank, Market Branch.

T. Stott & Sons Pty. Ltd. FRUIT MERCHANTS ESTABLISHED 1882.

26, 36 Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne. And at VICTORIA MARKETS.

COUNTRY AND INTERSTATE ORDER TRADE SUPPLIED.

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Regular Supplies of Quality Fruit well Packed and Graded will realize the Best Prices.

H. LOUEY PANG & CO. PTY. LTD. FRUIT AND PRODUCE MERCHANTS No. 4 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE G.P.O. Box No. 795F, Melbourne. References—E.S. & A. Bank, 225 Swanston St., Melbourne. Telegraphic Address: GOOD PRICES ASSURED "PANGANCO." Cheques Sent Promptly. F 6532.

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18 Wholesale Fruit Market

Growers can be assured of receiving the very best service and prompt returns.

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PROMPT RETURNS. £1,000 FIDELITY BOND. 9 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, Box 4076, G.P.O., Melbourne. Members Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Assn. of Victoria.

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Growers in all States are invited to send consignments. Highest market rates and prompt settlements.

Telephones—Store: F 4874. Private F 1555 & FW 1711. Bankers—Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

"Growers' Interests further protected by our Fidelity Bonds."

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14 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.

Consignments Solicited from all States.

Growers Will Receive Top Market Value and Prompt Returns.

Fidelity Bond Guarantee for £1,000

Pea and Bean Stands, 11 and 12 Victoria Market.

Reference—E.S. & A. Bank, Elizabeth St. Branch, Melbourne.

Phone: F 5035.

Market Notes and Prices

THE SYDNEY MARKET.

Review of Conditions to March 26, 1940, with a Review of Previous Week.

For the week ended March 26 fruit prices are reported as follows by the Market Representative of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W.

Apples (Extra Fancy and Fancy): Alf. (Tas.), 6/- to 8/- per bushel; Alex. (Tas.), 7/- to 9/-; Cleo. (Tas. and N.S.W.), 6/- to 8/6; Duke of Clarence (Tas.), 5/- to 8/-; Del. (N.S.W.), 8/- to 14/-; French Crabs (Tas.), 7/- to 8/-; Grav. (Tas.), 8/- to 12/-; Geeveston Fanny (Tas.), 7/- to 9/-; Granny Smith (N.S.W.), 7/- to 12/- (few 14/-); Jon. (S.A. 9/- to 11/-), (Tas. and N.S.W.), 6/- to 12/-; Londons (N.S.W.), 6/- to 8/-; Tasman's Pride (Tas.), 6/- to 8/-; Worcester (Tas.), 6/- to 10/-; Good and D. Grades lower.

Pears: D'Anjou (Tas.), 7/- to 12/- per bushel; Bosc. (Tas. and N.S.W.), 7/- to 12/-; Beurre d'Cap. (Tas.), 6/- to 10/-; Duchess de Angoulême (Tas.), 7/- to 9/-; Gansel's B. (Tas.), 8/- to 12/-; Howell (N.S.W.), 8/- to 11/-; Packham's (Tas. and N.S.W.), 8/- to 14/-; Winter Cole (Tas. and N.S.W.), 7/6 to 14/-; Good and D. Grade lower.

Comments on the Apple and Pear Position.

Apples: Good demand has been experienced for most Apples, and this morning (March 26), N.S.W. fruit had the market to itself. 66,009 Apples and Pears were expected from Tasmania, but owing to the holiday no deliveries had been made to the market. Values were expected to recede a little. **Pears:** Williams are finished and other types were in good request, particularly Packhams.

Avocado: Q'land., 8/- to 12/- per half bushel.

Bananas: N.S.W. and Q'land., Regulation graded, first quality fruit, 6, 7, 8 and 9 in., 15/- to 24/-, few higher, inferior lower per tropical case.

11,430 tropical cases reached the Sydney market last week, N.S.W. supplying 9,835 and Queensland 1,595. These light supplies were due to rain on the North Coast, and values to-day improved considerably, following the holidays.

Citrus Fruits.

Grapefruit: (Palestine), 22/- to 28/-, damaged lower per 1½ bushel case; (Q'land.), 10/- to 16/- per tropical case.

Lemons: (N.S.W.), Local 12/- to 17/-, few 20/-, Plain Grade 7/- to 11/- per bushel; (Q'land.), 15/- to 23/- per bushel.

Oranges: Valencias (N.S.W.), 20/- to 26/- per bushel; 2nd Crop, 5/- to 16/-, few higher, very small lower.

Comments on the Citrus Position.

Grapefruit: A few cases have arrived from Queensland, but values are indefinite due to Palestine fruit being plentiful. **Lemons:** Coastal arrivals are in many instances very small and wilted due to the dry weather. A few main crop of choice quality are coming forward. 1,152 bushel cases arrived from Queensland last week. **Oranges:** Supplies are now chiefly from Barham near the Victorian border. Most 2nd crop fruit is now very small and some of it lacking in juice due to the dry weather.

Grapes: N.S.W., Inland, Black 6/- to 10/-, few 12/-, Walthams 6/- to 7/6, few 8/-, Gordo 6/- to 7/-, few 9/-, Cornichon 6/- to 7/-, few 8/-, inferior in all types lower per half bushel; Q'land., Black, 6/- to 9/- per half bushel.

Locally grown supplies are now practically finished and the value of Black Muscat from Orange and Molong has improved, also Gordo from the same districts. Cornichon are more plentiful from the M.I.A., and Queensland forwarded 969 half cases of various types last week.

Melons: N.S.W., Inland, all types 6/- to 7/-, few 10/- per tropical case; Calif. Cremes to 10/-, few higher.

These are selling satisfactorily when well graded and of sound quality.

Nectarines: Inland, 6/- to 11/-, few 13/- per half bushel.

Peaches: N.S.W., Inland 5/- to 7/-, few 9/- per half bushel, M.I.A., Clings, 5/- to 7/- per half bushel; Vict., 7/- to 9/-, special to 13/- per bushel.

Pullars Cling now comprise the chief arrivals from the M.I.A. and Victoria. Only a few Peaches are now coming from the Western districts.

Plums: N.S.W., Inland, President 7/- to 9/-, Grand Duke 5/- to 7/-, October Purple 6/- to 10/- per half bushel.

These are less plentiful and values have improved.

Papaws: Q'land., 10/- to 14/- per tropical case.

41 tropical cases arrived from Queensland last week and deliveries to-day are heavier.

Passionfruit: N.S.W., 15/- to 20/-, inferior from 6/- per half bushel.

Most fruit is arriving from Mangrove Mountain and values for good quality fruit are firm.

Pineapples: Q'land., 6/- to 9/- per tropical case.

5,719 tropical cases arrived from Queensland last week.

Persimmons: N.S.W., 2/6 to 6/- per half bushel.

Much of this fruit is very small due to dry weather conditions.

Quinces: N.S.W., Inland, 7/- to 9/- per bushel.

The scarcity of other fruits is enabling satisfactory clearance to be made of this product.

Tomatoes: N.S.W., 2/- to 5/- per half bushel; Q'land., 2/- to 5/- per half bushel; Vict., Goulburn Valley 4/- to 7/- per bushel, Portland 4/- to 8/-, few 10/- per bushel; Repacked, 4/- to 7/- per half bushel.

This market has been very depressed and much over-ripe fruit was available this morning, values being low, and green fruit being preferred. Queensland forwarded 13,517 half cases last week and approximately 11,000 half cases arrived to-day. Approximately 300 half cases arrived from Tasmania to-day.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (1/4/40): The following prices are supplied by the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Assn. Incorp.

Vegetables: Beans, French, 8/- doz. lbs.; beetroot, 1/6 doz.; cabbages, large 5/- doz., small 2/6; carrots, 1/6 doz. bunches; cauliflowers, 8/- doz.; celery, 3/- doz. heads; cucumbers, apple, 1/-, 2/- doz.; lettuces, 1/-, 1/6 doz.; onions, 4/- cwt.; parsnips, 2/- doz. bunches; peas, 10/- bushel; potatoes, 10/-, 11/- cwt.; rhubarb, 1/6 doz. lbs.; tomatoes, firsts 4/- ½ case, seconds 3/- ½ case; trombones, 4/- cwt.; turkshead, 5/- cwt.; turnips, 2/- doz. bunches, swede 2/6 doz. bunches; triambles, 5/- cwt. (Cases extra.)

Fruits: Oranges, small counts 20/- case, best counts 24/- case; Lemons, green 16/- case, ripe 20/- case; Peaches, white flesh, 6/- ½ case, yellow flesh 5/6 ½ case; Plums, Nectarines 7/- ½ case, dark 5/- ½ case; Grapes, dark 5/- ½ case, white 5/- ½ case; Bananas, 28/-, 30/- crate; Pineapples, 18/- crate.

Leading Agents in the BRISBANE FRUIT MARKETS

Highest Prices. **A. S. BARR** Prompt Returns.
FRUIT EXCHANGE, BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND.
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A Trial Solicited. Returns Speak for Themselves. Shipping No. 19.
Established 1888. Registered Telegraphic Address: "Barr, Brisbane."

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Bankers: National Bank of Australasia, George St., Brisbane.

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SELECTED AGENTS FOR:

Phones: Office B 6218, Residence J 3445.

Established 1911.

Victoria: Harcourt Fruitgrowers' Progress Assn. Ltd.

Harcourt Fruit Supply Co. Ltd.

Victorian Central Citrus Assn. Ltd.

Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.

New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd.

Batlow Packing House Co-op. Soc. Ltd.

Motor Notes

Producer Gas Vehicles

Meeting New Conditions.

MUCH has been heard lately regarding the swing over to producer gas instead of petrol in view of the necessity to substitute propulsion power during conditions precipitated by war conditions, and many countries are experimenting in an attempt to meet new economic conditions.

The Melbourne University, through Prof. Burstall, is taking a local lead in this field of research, with apparent preliminary success. Speaking at Wangaratta recently, Prof. Burstall stated that although the immediate objective is to meet the possibility of a petrol shortage, the use of charcoal producer gas plants for tractors has many points in its favor even in peace time.

He qualified this statement by saying that although charcoal gas might only provide two-thirds of the power obtained from petrol, there had been no evidence to date to show that in a properly designed gas plant,

engine wear is any greater than that of petrol-fed engines.

In comparing the two systems, Prof. Burstall pointed out that the main inconvenience with gas is its slower starting when the engine is cold, and with the impatience of modern man, he would probably be quite ready to pay more for a producer unit that would start instantly. Present experiments suggest that this improvement may yet become practical.

Another difficulty, at present, is the size and weight of the generators, but if the necessary fuel can be compressed into smaller space, such as charcoal briquettes, this disadvantage may be greatly reduced. Other disabilities include the regulation of the fuel feed, water feed and fire control, with possibly lack of flexibility in heavy traffic, also diminished engine power as compared with petrol. All these things, however, may be overcome as further experiments lead to improvements which, obviously, will be discovered.

These improvements will also extend to interior factors such as dirty fuel effects, filters, control, pick-up, quantity of propulsion means necessary, kind of fuel, energy value, engine gumming and other adaptations that may be found necessary. Even so, it will be remembered that many problems were met and surmounted in the early days of the petrol engine. Therefore the swing over to more economical running, even with some disadvantages, has possibilities which science may still further develop.

KEEP TYRE PRESSURE EVEN.

Avoid Wear and Danger.

Not only does uneven tyre pressure mean danger to the safety of passengers, but it also tends to affect the life of the tyre and the best operating of the car, says a member of the R.A.C.V. An under-inflated tyre, either on the front or rear of the car, may result in a skid when the brakes are applied.

A badly-inflated tyre may fail to grip on the wheel, particularly during acceleration, and may cause the valve to be ripped out, with added danger to the passengers.

Then, too, a poorly-inflated tyre causes it to wear more on the walls than on the tread, leaving the centre much less affected.

FUEL CONSUMED WHEN IDLING.

When idling, a motor car engine of 8 h.p. consumes 1 gal. petrol in 12 hours, according to a test made recently in England. A 10 h.p. engine will consume 1 gal. petrol in 8 hours, a 12 h.p. engine in 7 hours, and a 14 h.p. engine in 6 hours, while a 25 h.p. engine in 3 hours.

These figures suggest the economic saving to be made by switching off the engine when the car is standing idle.

THE 1940 CHEV.

Petrol Consumption Tests.

IN ORDER TO SECURE independent confirmation of the claims made for petrol consumption of the 1940 Chevrolet, Preston Motors Pty. Ltd. secured the co-operation of the technical staffs of the R.A.C.V. and one of the major oil companies, who conducted independent tests on two different routes.

An examination of the complete fuel assembly was made by the R.A.C.V., including tanks, pipe lines, carburettor, etc., and certified to be according to the standard specification, with the following results:

R.A.C.V. Test.

Using super grade petrol, over a distance of 83 miles, driving at an average speed of 31.125 miles per hour, the average petrol consumption, including three stops for traffic, was 26.937 miles per gallon.

Tests with super and standard petrole at varying miles per hour of speed gave the following results:—

Miles per Gallon.

Super.		Standard.
At 30 m.p.h.,	28.65	28.25
" 40 "	25.75	25.75
" 45 "	23.75	23.8
" 50 "	21.75	21.3
" 60 "	18.35	17.4

An average over all speeds showed that super gave 21.0 miles per gallon and standard 21.8 miles per gallon.

These tests prove the claims for Chevrolet economy. In addition, two important points were emphasised—first, that the use of super or standard grade fuels made no appreciable difference in the petrol consumption, and, second, that the acceleration efficiency was maintained with either fuel.

WAR RAISES COST OF CARS.

Quality to be Maintained.

Since the outbreak of war, British car manufacturers have maintained production with stocks of materials on hand, but it is stated that these are nearly exhausted and that production cost will be inevitable. One adaptation necessary is that substitutes are being devised, but it is announced that this will not adversely affect the quality of British manufacture.

GERMANY'S PEOPLE'S CAR.

It is reported that Hitler's idea of turning out a cheap "people's" car has gone west, and that thousands of people who deposited 5/- per week towards buying these cars are now waiting for a refund of their money. It is stated that the hugh factory that was built at Volkswagen to make the cars is now being used for making small arms and machine guns—and the people are walking.

Herbert Wilson Pty. Ltd.

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AND COMMISSION AGENTS

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Private Phone: M 3055.

Bankers: National Bank of Australasia (Western Branch), Melb.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members
under
Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the

Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria

the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.

STAND NUMBERS ARE AS INDICATED IN PARENTHESES.

T. STOTT & SON PTY. LTD. (26-36).

H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).

A. E. PITT (14).

J. DAVIS PTY. LTD. (8).

W. S. TONG (31).

SILK BROS. PTY. LTD. (24-25).

J. G. MUMFORD (35).

GOLDEN VALLEY FRUIT CO. PTY. LTD. (15).

J. W. ROSS (13).

H. M. WADE & CO. (21).

DAVID SMITH PTY. LTD. (3).

SILBERT SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17).

WATKINS FRUIT COMPANY PTY. LTD (5)

G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).

R. CORNISH & SONS (5).

J. HYMAN & SON (51).

HERBERT WILSON PTY. LTD. (10).

FRANK BOOTH & SONS PTY. LTD. (16).

GEO. LISTER PTY. LTD. (12).

TIM YOUNG & CO. PTY. LTD. (18).

F. W. VEAR PTY. LTD. (28).

YEE HOP LOONG & CO. (32).

H. LOUEY PANG & CO. PTY. LTD. (4).

WING YOUNG & CO. (38).

D. MENTIPLAY & CO. PTY. LTD. (27).

PRICE & KING PTY. LTD. (2).

REGAN & KENNY (Successors to Wm. Sweeney). (33).

Office: 21 Wholesale Fruit Market,
Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone: F 4866.

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

The Pig Pen

PIG MANAGEMENT — BREEDING AND SELECTION

A COMBINATION of open air and intensive housing is recommended. The old dirty pens are wisely being discarded and modern housing is being provided. To get the best results, good feeding, comfortable housing and good management are necessary.

The breeding stock must be of a strain desired for profitable returns, and must come from strains noted for rearability, weight increase and rapid growth. For the boar correct type and proved breeding strain is a first requisite. Selection should be made at about 8 months of age and the male must be well-developed and show outward signs of the required characters of the strain. A masculine head with plenty of width between the ears must be looked for. In-bent knees must be avoided as also coarse heavy shoulders. Light shoulders, however, should carry plenty of room for the vital organs. Naturally the sexual organs must be sound and well developed.

The sow must conform to type, good length, light shoulders and good pelvic room. No less than 12, better still 14, well developed teats, regularly spaced; docile and maternal disposition, ability to maintain milk supply for young.

Mating is important and early mating has disadvantages. Provided that she is well grown, the sow can be put to a selected

boar at 8 months; unrestricted service by the boar is most undesirable. The visits should be guarded and the sow mated within 24 to 36 hours of the first oestrus. One visit is all that is necessary, after which the sow should be taken away and watched for 21 days. If any reappearance of oestrus occurs another service is necessary.

The time between the service and farrowing is 16 weeks, and is the most important stage of breeding. Success here affects the size and growth of the litter. Under-feeding at this time will bring under-nourished and weakly pigs, but the sow must not be allowed to become too fat. Green feed should be given plentifully, also clean drinking water, plus, of course, a dry, comfortable bed. Exercise is essential.

Normal healthy sows farrow without any great attention. After the first litter, however, a restless mother should be separated from the piglets for a time until she settles down. The teeth of the piglets should be examined and if too long should be snipped off to prevent damage to the teats. The litter should be weaned at 8 weeks if the mother is to breed twice a year, as is general. A visit of the youngsters to the mother for one hour for one day should be managed so as to drain the udder. If necessary a second and third day visit until the sow is dried off.

KILLING AND CURING

Easy and Good Method

IN a paper read by Mr. J. Sims at the Glencoe Branch of the South Australian Agricultural Bureau and reported in the Department Journal, he quoted an easy and successful method of killing and curing pigs. First of all a pig must be dressed and allowed to hang overnight to get thoroughly cold and hard, as warm meat will not take salt. The pig should be cut down the back while hot and let hang in two pieces, except at the bottom of the neck, to stop it from tipping off the gamble. Also take out the lard while the carcass is hot. In the morning take out all the bone. This can easily be done by following the bone up with a good knife. The ham bone and shoulder blade should always be taken out, as bacon will keep as long as required with those bones taken out.

To cure this bacon for one's own use, cut off both hams and shoulders, making 6 pieces. Take the ham and run a knife around the bone and well into the ham so as to leave a pocket. Also do the same with the shoulder after the blade has been taken out. Now rub the

meat well with plenty of salt on both sides and then apply well with saltpetre (about 4 oz. to an average pig), making sure that the hams and shoulders get a double supply; that makes the bacon nice and red.

Then take about 4 lb. brown sugar and work well into the meat, filling the pockets well with it also; be sure and put plenty of salt in them. Turn and rub well with salt every day for the first week, and every second day for the second week, and a couple of times the third week. Three weeks will cure most pigs up to 130 lb. Pigs over that and up to 250 lb. require 4 weeks of the same treatment.

PIGS WITH LONG BODIES.

Pigs with long bodies in proportion to their weight have a desirable light covering of fat. It is stated that Australian pigs lack length of body. Body length is not only important for the bacon curer, but long-bodied sows are usually better milkers and their young generally develop more quickly and grow more weight.

Poultry Notes

KEEP BIRDS FREE OF DISEASE.

The common fowl is very subject to many forms of disease. These may come from cold conditions, draughty houses, badly ventilated pens, overcrowding, and general bad management. Foul ground may spread some diseases such as worm infestation, whilst lice and mites affect or worry the birds, putting them off production or food. It pays to guard against all such troubles. Clean houses, plain food and plenty of green feed are first requisites in successful poultry keeping.

A breeder of table poultry in England recently stated he made 90 per cent. on capital invested and 20 per cent. profit on his turnover. He added, however, that he could not have done so unless he had kept his birds free from disease.

If you are in commercial egg production, read a good poultry newspaper every month. It will help you in lots of ways. The "Australasian Poultry World" is the best available in Victoria, and costs only sixpence per month.

BUMBLEFOOT.

Various causes effect this condition. Bumblefoot shows in a swelling or abscess in the foot. It can be caused by a small wound getting infected and setting up a septic condition following scratching in hedges or stony ground or even coarse litter, thistles or other sharp material. Another cause can be jumping off high perches on to hard ground, causing a bruise on the pad of the feet.

When Bumblefoot is noticed, the bird's foot should be bathed in hot water, a ligature tied tightly around the leg and the swelling lanced deeply to get out the core. Then the wound should be washed with Jeyes fluid or other disinfectant, smeared with an antiseptic ointment and bandaged tightly, afterwards removing the ligature from the leg. If a good response is not seen, the operation should be repeated.

THE MALE BREEDERS.

It is not too soon to be looking over the young cockerels to make your first preliminary selection of prospective sires to mate with your best second year hens. They must carry type, be well developed, have the characters of their breed, and be so mature that already they are making claims to being "cock of the walk." The male puts more than 50 per cent. into the mating and you can't afford to mate up birds that will not give you good fertility and carry on any desirable strain that is in their make-up.

Of course, you will watch them and make your final selection later, just before mating up is due; in the meantime keep an eye open for the most promising sires for your next chick season.

"The doctor said that my wife and I need more recreation, so I've bought myself a set of golf clubs," said Gubb to his neighbour.

"And what have you bought for your wife?"

"A lawn-mower."

Do You Keep Poultry?
if so—

You should secure
a copy of the—

POULTRY BREEDERS' GUIDE & YEAR BOOK

Just Published

100 PAGES

Illustrated in
COLOURS
and
BLACK AND WHITE.

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Post free.

This valuable book of reference contains articles on the following subjects:—

LINE BREEDING, BROODING, INCUBATING, HOUSING, FEEDING, DISEASE CHART, TABLE POULTRY, CANDLING, EXPORT, LEADING BREEDS (illustrated in colours), etc.

Published by the

HORTICULTURAL PRESS PTY. LTD.

Box 1944, G.P.O.

Melbourne

BANANA CULTURE

Control of Diseases

AN INVESTIGATION into black-end and anthracnose of Bananas is being conducted by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. These diseases are responsible for considerable losses during transport and ripening. The C.S.I.R. has just issued Bulletin No. 131, giving its report to date.

The relevant investigations were carried out by the Council in co-operation with the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Stock, and were aided by grants made available by the Commonwealth Banana Committee, a body administering funds made available by the Go-

vernment from duties collected on imported Bananas.

Infection is shown to occur while the fruit is still on the plantation, though the disease does not become apparent till the fruit is ripened. It is concluded that control can only be obtained by careful attention to various points of plantation management, transport and ripening.

On the plantation, dead leaves on the plants proved to be the most important source of infection. More than three dead leaves should not be left on a plant; a good clean up when Spring growth is commencing and another in early December should be the minimum attempt.

ed, and an intermediate one added if possible.

Fruit should be handled carefully to avoid bruises and wounds through which rot-producing fungi may enter, and special care is necessary to prevent injury when breaking hands into singles. Fruit should be kept as cool as possible in Summer and as warm as possible in Winter to reduce disease and facilitate ripening. In this connection, it is necessary to retain the paper lining of the cases unbroken in the Winter and to tear it between the boards in the Summer.

Every effort should be made to shorten the time between cutting and the commencement of ripening, as the influence of time in the development of these forms of decay cannot be too strongly stressed.

The general adoption of properly equipped ripening rooms is most desirable. After ripen-

ing, Bananas should be kept cool and not held longer than absolutely necessary.

Outbreaks of black-end, rendered serious by adverse climatic or economic conditions, may be somewhat reduced by treatment with certain fungicides.

Times for Picking and Shipping Apples.

THE Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has just issued, as its Pamphlet No. 95, a guide to the best times for picking and shipping the principal varieties of Apples grown in Australia. The work of compilation was put in hand before the outbreak of war and the subsequent dislocation of fruit shipments, but the publication contains information of value for producers who store Apples either for local market or export. A study has been made of reports on the condition of Australian Apples in United Kingdom markets during the seasons 1936-39, and experiments have been carried out in Tasmania during the past seven seasons.

The survey has shown that it is possible to fix, for any State, a suitable period for shipment, and hence for picking, of any variety. Within that period practically all the fruit of that variety in a State reaches its best picking period for export, and it is found that the date varies very little from year to year. By curtailing the periods of shipment, deterioration in exported Apples should be decreased, and undesirable competition between early and late varieties eased.

It has been shown that Apples from a heavy crop have a much longer storage life than those from a light crop, and growers should allow for this factor; fruit from light crops should be kept for home marketing.

Brown heart, the most important storage defect in exported Australian Apples, is shown to be caused by excessive accumulation of carbon dioxide in the storage air. It is principally confined to Tasmanian Sturmers, and can be largely eliminated by observing precautions in picking and shipment.

ADVERTISING COSTS.

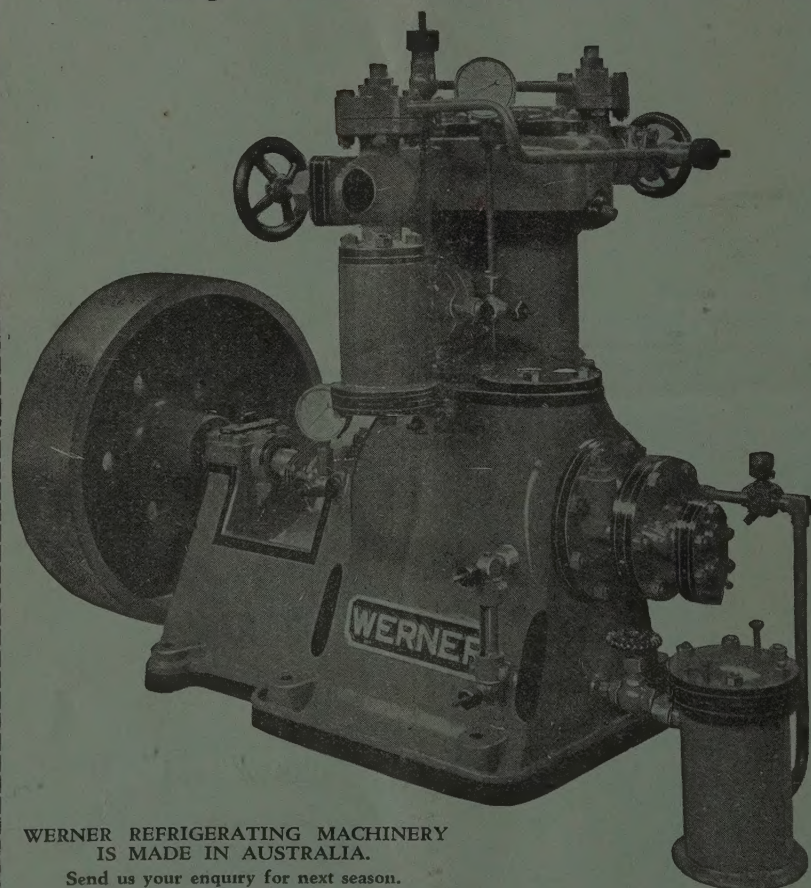
It is estimated in U.S.A. that it costs 1d. to advertise 4 doz. Oranges, 30/- to sell the average automobile, and 2½d. to sell 10 galls. petrol. Actually, on such figures, advertising is not an expensive proposition. The trade generally recognises this fact and, providing that space is wisely used, advertising is an important department of all business.

Comparing the amounts expended for advertising food commodities, the report adds that food manufacturers in 1938 spent \$10,000,000 in advertising. Meat, fish and poultry, \$360,000; tea, coffee and soft drinks, \$1,100,000; soaps and cleansers, \$940,000, and breakfast foods \$840,000, whilst dairy products totalled \$620,000.

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of Fruit in over 60 Stores throughout the Commonwealth

We design and Install Plants to Store from 500 Cases upwards



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